

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
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CAUSE NO. F07-50318-M

THE STATE OF TEXAS	*	IN THE DISTRICT COURT
vs.	*	194TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
WESLEY LYNN RUIZ	*	DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS

REPORTER'S RECORD

VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION

Volume 30 of 59 Volume(s)

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT on this the 3rd day of March, A.D, 2008, the above-styled and -numbered cause(s) came on for hearing before the HONORABLE ERNEST B. WHITE, III of the 194th Judicial District Court of Dallas County, State of Texas, the following is a true and correct transcription of the proceedings had, to-wit:

(Proceedings Reported by Computerized Machine Shorthand)

Belinda G. Baraka, Official Court Reporter
214-653-5803

A P P E A R A N C E S

HON. ANDY BEACH
Assistant District Attorney
State Bar No. 01944900

HON. ANDREA HANDLEY
Assistant District Attorney
State Bar No. 08898800

FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

HON. PAUL BRAUCHLE
Attorney at Law
State Bar No. 02918000

HON. WILLIAM "KARO" JOHNSON
Attorney at Law
State Bar No. 10804500

FOR THE DEFENDANT

* * * * *

1	I N D E X	
2		PAGE/VOL.
3	Proceedings - 03/03/08	4/30
4	TAMARA KRETLOW	
5	Voir Dire Examination - Mr. Beach	4
6	Dismissed by Agreement	21
7	ROBERT TURBON	
8	Voir Dire Examination - Ms. Handley	22
9	Voir Dire Examination - Mr. Johnson	56
10	Acceptance of the Juror by the State	100
11	Acceptance of the Juror by the Defense	100
12	JUNE TEHAN	
13	Voir Dire Examination - Mr. McCallum.....	102
14	Dismissed by Agreement	111
15	CYNTHIA SANTOSCOY	
16	Voir Dire Examination - Mr. Beach.....	112
17	Dismissed by Agreement	114
18	FLOYD GIBBS	
19	Voir Dire Examination - Mr. McCallum	115
20	Dismissed by Agreement	125
21	LLOYD MCGINNIS	
22	Voir Dire Examination - Mr. Handley	126
23	Dismissed by Agreement	142
24		
25	Reporter's Certificate	143

PROCEEDINGS

(March 3, 2008)

THE BAILIFF: All rise for the juror.

(Prospective juror entered the courtroom.)

THE COURT: You may be seated.

Good morning, Ms. Kretlow.

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Good morning.

THE COURT: Welcome to the 194th District Court.

The attorneys have viewed your questionnaire and they have some questions concerning issues that may be prevalent in this case. There aren't any right or wrong responses.

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.

THE COURT: They just want to see how you feel about certain things.

The State may proceed first.

What says State?

MR. BEACH: May it please the Court?

TAMARA KRETLOW

was called as a prospective juror, after having been previously sworn by the Court, testified under oath as follows:

VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION

BY MR. BEACH:

Good morning, Ms. Kretlow. How are you doing?

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Fine. How are you.

MR. BEACH: I am okay. I wasn't awake until

Bobby announced your presence in the courtroom.

To my left is Andrea Handley and behind me are Marshall

McCallum. We are all Assistant District Attorneys and we are

responsible for the jury selection portion of this capital

murder case.

Karo Johnson is the attorney to my left.

MR. JOHNSON: Good morning.

MR. BEACH: Paul Brauchle is another attorney,

he will be here. And that's Wesley Ruiz at the end of counsel

table?

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Good morning.

MR. BEACH: Ms. Kretlow I am guessing you are no stranger to the courtroom?

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's correct.

MR. BEACH: You were 19 when you went to work for All State?

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

MR. BEACH: What was your entry position?

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Started out in claims support. Worked for the casualty department and have been in that department the entire time.

MR. BEACH: And you have been in Tarrant County; is that correct?

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, living or working?

MR. BEACH: Working?

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Actually worked in Irving when I first started. The office moved to split off, went to Fort Worth for several years and then I am back in Irving now.

MR. BEACH: What kinds of cases are you adjusting right now?

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Personal injury.

MR. BEACH: Car wrecks?

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, sir.

MR. BEACH: Most part?

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

MR. BEACH: And obviously, you know a bunch of attorneys. Are some of the cases or are most of the cases now handled in-house?

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: In-house. Depends on if there is a conflict of interest, then this goes to outside counsel.

MR. BEACH: What Dallas lawyers the most part are you using right now any come to mind?

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Dallas attorneys that we use?

MR. BEACH: Yes, ma'am.

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Other than our inside counsel?

MR. BEACH: Yes, ma'am.

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: We use Mark Stradley's office, Stacy and Conder, William Brotherton. Heidi Whitaker is in that office. We use Thompson, Coe.

MR. BEACH: Okay. You don't use Steve Springer?

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

MR. BEACH: He's an old buddy of mind from the D.A.'s office. He used to work at Fannin and Harper.

And your husband is a mediator?

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

MR. BEACH: Tell me about his work situation right now?

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He owns North Texas Mediation and Arbitration. He mediated civil cases and family cases. Gets a lot of court appointed mediations through the civil county and district courts.

MR. BEACH: Okay. There is an outfit called Dispute Resolution Services over in Fort Worth, you used them before.

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have used them before.

MR. BEACH: Is your husband in business similar to that?

PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

MR. BEACH: Okay. And I see that your husband used to be a police officer at some point in time; is that correct?

1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, that's correct.
 2 MR. BEACH: Before you knew him?
 3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Before I knew him.
 4 MR. BEACH: All right. Obviously they are going
 5 to be interested that at one point in time in his life your
 6 husband with a police officer, especially because the fact
 7 situation that we are involved with in this case, the murder
 8 of a peace officer. Should they have any concerns about the
 9 fact that your husband was a peace officer at one time in a
 10 case like this?
 11 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't believe so.
 12 MR. BEACH: I guess you know he puts his pants
 13 on one leg at a time like anybody else?
 14 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 15 MR. BEACH: Human being?
 16 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 17 MR. BEACH: All right. All right. The reason
 18 why you are here, we have been at this process, depending on
 19 who you ask, six weeks, maybe seven weeks, I am not really
 20 sure right now. We have got nine jurors. You know we need 12
 21 to start a case like this. It has been a laborious process.
 22 And I can -- you can imagine the stakes don't get any higher
 23 than what we are talking about in a death-penalty case. The
 24 reason why you are here at least based on your questionnaire,
 25 you are pretty much in line with what the law is here in

10

1 20 minutes or out two days. That's why we have the
 2 five-to-eight-day window. There is a possibility that you may
 3 be sequestered for a night or two once the deliberation begin.
 4 The trial is 9:00 to 5:00 like a civil trial. Don't work
 5 weekends. Be able to make phone calls, you know, and go home
 6 at night except when deliberations actually commence. With
 7 those representations in mind, ma'am, do you believe you could
 8 devote your full attention and concentration to the trial,
 9 five-to-eight-day working trial?
 10 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, sir.
 11 MR. BEACH: You have had a chance to review your
 12 questionnaire. And I am guessing that was the last thing that
 13 you had in mind when you came down for jury duty a couple of
 14 weeks ago, get this 18 page --
 15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's true.
 16 MR. BEACH: -- questionnaire put into your
 17 hands. And anything that you would change after reviewing it
 18 here this morning?
 19 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: There were a couple of
 20 things on page eight. The second question: Have you, your
 21 spouse or any family member, close personal friend had any
 22 training in law enforcement. I put no at that point.
 23 However, you saw my husband was a police officer.
 24 MR. BEACH: Sure.
 25 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: So I put that my husband

1 Texas; that is, you believe the death penalty is appropriate
 2 in some murder cases?
 3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, sir.
 4 MR. BEACH: If you had circled number one there
 5 on the front page of your questionnaire, said I believe it is
 6 appropriate in all murder cases, well, you wouldn't be here.
 7 Because obviously that is not what the law is. If you circled
 8 four, five or six, I don't believe in the death penalty, I
 9 could never do it. You wouldn't be here. So you are right
 10 down the middle. So you are in line in kind of firing line in
 11 terms of potentially being on this jury.
 12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.
 13 MR. BEACH: And you are going to know today,
 14 ma'am, if you are on this jury or if you are not on this jury.
 15 So that will be a done deal when you walk out of the
 16 courthouse today.
 17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.
 18 MR. BEACH: We anticipate that the trial itself
 19 is going to start some time in the middle of April. And once
 20 it actually starts, we are looking at five-to-eight-day
 21 working trial, okay?
 22 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.
 23 MR. BEACH: The only thing we can't predict is,
 24 you can imagine is we can't predict how long the jury is going
 25 to deliberate. That is kind of the x-factor, they may be out

11

1 was a police officer in Atlanta, I don't know the year.
 2 The other one was on page ten, the first question: Some
 3 people feel genetics, circumstances of birth, upbringing and
 4 environment should be considered when determining the proper
 5 punishment of someone convicted after crime. What do you
 6 think? And I put I don't think so. The person's upbringing
 7 and environment mold the person, I added but they should still
 8 be held accountable for their actions.
 9 MR. BEACH: All right.
 10 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: And nothing else has
 11 changed.
 12 MR. BEACH: You indicated on page three that you
 13 remember something on TV about an officer being shot; is that
 14 correct?
 15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Every time a police officer
 16 is shot in Dallas, it makes news, but I don't recall anything.
 17 MR. BEACH: Specific about this case?
 18 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, sir.
 19 MR. BEACH: So as you sit here right now, your
 20 mind is a blank slate, you have not formed any conclusions or
 21 opinions --
 22 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, sir.
 23 MR. BEACH: -- at this time. Okay.
 24 At the bottom of page three, that last question there:
 25 Do you agree with the law in the State of Texas that says an

1 intentional murder of a police officer should be a potential
 2 death-penalty case? And you answered, yes; is that correct?
 3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, sir.
 4 MR. BEACH: But you understand that there is
 5 nothing automatic about a death penalty. If a police officer,
 6 no matter what the category is?
 7 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Correct.
 8 MR. BEACH: Sometime death penalty is
 9 appropriate and sometimes it isn't?
 10 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's correct.
 11 MR. BEACH: All right. We have told every
 12 person sitting up there what our position is going into this
 13 case. We don't want it to come as a surprise in April when
 14 you are sitting over here, hey, these guys were really serious
 15 about seeking the death penalty in this case. That's our
 16 objective in this case. That's what we are after in this case
 17 is to obtain a death penalty for Wesley Ruiz. Not some
 18 fictional character; but the man at the end of counsel table.
 19 And we tell each juror that because we believe we have the
 20 type and quality of evidence, first of all, that will convince
 21 a jury beyond any reasonable doubt that he is guilty of
 22 capital murder exactly as charged in the indictment. And
 23 secondly, that we believe that a death penalty is the
 24 appropriate punishment in this case for this man, for the way
 25 he has lived his life, for the crime itself versus the only

1 other punishment alternative once found guilty of a capital
 2 murder. And that's life imprisonment without the possibility of
 3 parole. That's our position. As you can imagine, they have
 4 got a different position, okay. Really what our position is,
 5 what the lawyer's position is, is not going to amount to a
 6 hill of beans in this case. It is going to be what 12 jurors
 7 think about the evidence in this case. But we tell you this
 8 because we are actively seeking the death penalty.
 9 And let's just -- you probably know this. You may know
 10 this. But I want to walk you through just to make sure. If a
 11 jury convicts this man of capital murder and then at the
 12 punishment phase recommends to Judge White that the death
 13 penalty is the appropriate punishment, he would have no
 14 alternative under the law but to set this man's sentence at
 15 death by lethal injection. And what does that mean?
 16 Well, at some date in the future, Judge White would set
 17 an actual execution date. And on the day before that
 18 execution date, they would come and get Wesley Ruiz from the
 19 death-row facility at Livingston, Texas. Take him by vehicle
 20 to downtown Huntsville, Texas. I don't know if you ever been
 21 to Huntsville or not. Right in the middle of downtown
 22 Huntsville is an old prison unit called the Walls Prison Unit.
 23 And within that is the actual death chamber. And on the date
 24 of his execution, he would be placed in a holding cell, given
 25 a last meal, be allowed to see his family, be allowed to see a

14

1 spiritual adviser.
 2 At six o'clock that night, they would come and get
 3 Mr. Ruiz from that holding cell and take him down a narrow
 4 hallway into the actual death chamber. And in the middle of
 5 that room is a hospital bed. He will be placed on that
 6 hospital bed, strapped to it, and intravenous lines would be
 7 run into his arms.
 8 At that time, two curtains would be drawn back. Behind
 9 one of those curtains, he could have up to five members of his
 10 family there. Behind the other curtain, the victim could have
 11 up to five members of his family there. He would be given the
 12 opportunity to make a last statement.
 13 And once that was done, the warden would give the
 14 go-ahead for the execution to commence. At that time a series
 15 of three drugs would begin to be introduced into his system
 16 through those I.V. lines. The first to sedate him. The
 17 second to collapse his lungs. And the third to stop his
 18 heart. Whether it took three minutes or five minutes, at some
 19 point in time there in the death chamber, the doctor would go
 20 over, check on him and pronounce him dead.
 21 I don't tell you that to be morbid, but we just tell
 22 everybody to try to impress upon them as much as we can here
 23 in this sterile courtroom what is at stake at trial and what
 24 the State is actively seeking.
 25 Having gone through all that, ma'am, do you believe that

15

1 you are the type of person -- you may believe in the death
 2 penalty, you may think it is appropriate when you see it on TV
 3 or talking about it around the coffee pot, but are you the
 4 kind of person that could personally participate in a process
 5 if you believe the evidence compelled you to do so that may
 6 very well result at some date in the future this man laying
 7 dead on a gurney in Huntsville, Texas?
 8 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 9 MR. BEACH: As I told you, we have nine jurors
 10 up to this point in time. I can guarantee you that none of
 11 them have been real thrilled to find out, hey, I am on this
 12 jury. We haven't had anybody come down saying, Pick me, pick
 13 me. It is obviously a very weighty responsibility. And I
 14 know you have handled claims and lots of money was involved
 15 and people's lives, you know, at stake in terms of damages and
 16 things like this. You could imagine that this is a person, if
 17 you are asked to be on this jury, is going to be with you the
 18 rest of your life.
 19 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I understand that.
 20 MR. BEACH: At some date in the future, you may
 21 turn on the TV, some date in the future, six o'clock, turn on
 22 the evening news and there it is, Wesley Ruiz is being taken
 23 to the death chamber, is going to bring it all back to you.
 24 You are telling me without hesitation you could participate in
 25 this process?

1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, sir.
 2 MR. BEACH: All right. Why do you think we need
 3 a death penalty in Texas or why do you think we should have a
 4 death penalty, ma'am?
 5 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, I think that we should
 6 have a death penalty in Texas to punish those who do horrific
 7 crime. I also think it is a deterrent for other criminals to
 8 not do whatever crime it is that the death penalty is
 9 warranted.
 10 MR. BEACH: Okay. Now, again, you may know
 11 this, and I apologize if you do. I just want to make sure, as
 12 you checked on the questionnaire, the death penalty in Texas
 13 is not even a possibility except in very few murder fact
 14 situations, okay?
 15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.
 16 MR. BEACH: For instance if I pulled out a gun
 17 right now, pointed it to her head and blue her brains out and
 18 stood over her dead body and laughed about it, you would agree
 19 with me that would be a horrific, intentional murder?
 20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 21 MR. BEACH: Correct. But guess what, the most I
 22 could get, most I could get is a life sentence without -- a
 23 life sentence because she is not one of the protected classes
 24 of individuals the legislature has said you kill one of the
 25 members of this class, you may get the death penalty.

1 What are those classes? Like what we have in this case,
 2 if you murder a police officer while he was in the line of
 3 duty. He is a protected class. And if you murder someone
 4 like that, potentially the State could seek the death penalty.
 5 If you murder a child under the age of six, protected
 6 class, the State could seek the death penalty.
 7 An elderly person over the age of 65 -- well, 65 doesn't
 8 sound quite as old as used to, that's a protected class and
 9 you could potentially receive the death penalty.
 10 A prison guard while you are trying to escape from the
 11 penitentiary.
 12 And the other category that is probably the most common
 13 here in Texas, if you commit a murder while you are in the
 14 course of committing another very serious felony. If I go
 15 into a 7-Eleven convenience store to rob it and murder the
 16 clerk behind the counter, that's a murder during a robbery.
 17 The legislature says you commit a murder in a situation like
 18 that, you could potentially be looking at a death penalty.
 19 Murder-for-hire. Murder during a rape or a burglary or
 20 kidnapping. But other than that, ma'am, those really are the
 21 only fact situations where the State could even seek the death
 22 penalty, okay?
 23 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.
 24 MR. BEACH: Now, if I made you governor for the
 25 day where you could kind of shape the laws anyway that you

1 wanted to, would you be okay with that statutory scheme I went
 2 to, would you increase the number of cases to seek the death
 3 penalty? Are you okay with it?
 4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 5 MR. BEACH: And like we talked about, those
 6 murder cases, we call capital murder cases. What I described
 7 to you earlier, executing her, that's horrible. It is just a
 8 first-degree, what we call regular murder, okay. Capital
 9 murder is a murder plus. It is one of those special
 10 categories of murder where the State can seek the death
 11 penalty.
 12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.
 13 MR. BEACH: If I murdered her in coldblood, that
 14 would be just regular murder. The State would not be entitled
 15 to seek the death penalty. And what happens in a case like
 16 that, where we are just talking about a murder case. Well,
 17 unlike a capital case where there is only two possible
 18 punishments, death or life without parole, if you are
 19 convicted of a murder in Texas, just a first-degree murder,
 20 there is a wide range of punishment the legislature has put
 21 into play that would give the jury many, many, options to
 22 assess punishment in just a regular murder case. Anywhere
 23 from as low as five years in the penitentiary all the way up
 24 to 99 years or life.
 25 Now, the fact situation I just described to you a little

1 bit earlier, executing her at point blank range and laughing
 2 about it?
 3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 4 MR. BEACH: I guess most juries would think that
 5 would be up at the higher end of the punishment range if the
 6 State proved the murder case like that. We have that wide
 7 range because there are all different kinds of murders. For
 8 instance, 85-year-old man who has been married to the same
 9 lady for 65 years. She is --
 10 MR. BRAUCHLE: Your Honor, we would object on
 11 the grounds previously stated, we would ask you to recall
 12 those.
 13 THE COURT: Overruled. Mr. Brauchle, you may
 14 have a running objection.
 15 MR. BRAUCHLE: The Court is aware of our
 16 objections?
 17 THE COURT: The Court is.
 18 MR. BEACH: Been married to the same lady for 65
 19 years, has terminal cancer, in horrible pain and he
 20 disconnects the life support to her body. You know what that
 21 is called? That is called murder here in the State of Texas,
 22 intentional taking of someone's life. That would be someone I
 23 guess you would treat differently than coldblood execution
 24 that I described. That's why we have that wide range of
 25 punishment in the murder case. And to be a qualified juror in

1 a capital murder case, you have to be able to assure both
 2 sides that in a murder case, you would have an open mind to
 3 that full range of punishment. Okay. Of five years all the
 4 way up to 99 years or life, because again it is there, but you
 5 don't know what the facts are in this case. And you have to
 6 have your mind open to the full range of punishment.
 7 Now, we will get back to capital murder here in just a
 8 second. Just assume that you are a juror in a murder case,
 9 where the range is anywhere from five years all the way up to
 10 99 years or life. Depending on the facts, if after you heard
 11 all the evidence in the case, ma'am, you believed that as low
 12 as a five-year sentence was a proper punishment in a murder
 13 case, you believe the evidence compelled you to give as low as
 14 five years, you felt that was the right thing to do, could you
 15 and would you give a five-year sentence?
 16 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 17 MR. BEACH: If it was a 30-year sentence, could
 18 you give 30 years?
 19 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 20 MR. BEACH: All the way up to life. Could you
 21 give life if you felt the evidence convinced you to do it?
 22 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, sir.
 23 MR. BEACH: Really to be a qualified juror in a
 24 murder case, you have to tell us going in without knowing the
 25 facts, my mind is open to the full range of punishment and I

1 will give anywhere within that range if I believe the evidence
 2 convinced me that was the right thing to do?
 3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 4 MR. BEACH: You could do that?
 5 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 6 MR. BEACH: All right.
 7 Now, let's go back to capital murder. How does it work
 8 here in Texas. It is a two-part trial. We call it a two-act
 9 play, okay. In act one of this play, this criminal trial, the
 10 jury has only one question to answer. Is the defendant guilty
 11 or not guilty, okay.
 12 You with me so far?
 13 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 14 MR. BEACH: You are not concerned about life
 15 sentence or death sentence in the first act of the play, your
 16 only focus is on whether or not the State --
 17 We have an agreement, Judge. Thank you, ma'am.
 18 THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am. You are free to
 19 go.
 20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Thank you.
 21 MR. BEACH: Appreciate it.
 22 (Prospective juror retired from the courtroom.)
 23 (Pause in the proceedings.)
 24 THE BAILIFF: All rise for the juror.
 25 THE COURT: Good morning, Mr. Turbon. How are

1 you doing?
 2 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Fine, Judge.
 3 You all right?
 4 THE COURT: Fine, thank you. The attorney have
 5 some questions to ask you regarding your qualifications as a
 6 juror in the case. There are no right or wrong answers they
 7 just want to see how you feel.
 8 MS. HANDLEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
 9 **ROBERT TURBON**
 10 was called as a prospective juror, after having been
 11 previously sworn by the Court, testified under oath as
 12 follows:
 13 **DIRECT EXAMINATION**
 14 **BY MS. HANDLEY:**
 15 Good morning, Mr. Turbon. How are you doing today?
 16 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I am fine. You all right?
 17 MS. HANDLEY: I am fine. Just one of the
 18 prettiest days in Dallas County, I guess it is supposed to be
 19 spring technically.
 20 Have you had a chance to look over your questionnaire
 21 again back there?
 22 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have.
 23 MR. BEACH: First of all my name is Andrea
 24 Handley. And I have two attorneys working with me today. You
 25 just past Mr. Marshall McCallum, and also Andy Beach, who will

1 be joining us a little bit later on. And we are Assistant
 2 District Attorneys here in Dallas in charge of selecting this
 3 jury in this case.
 4 And to my left is Karo Johnson and Paul Brauchle. They
 5 represent the defendant, Wesley Ruiz, seated at the far end of
 6 counsel table over there.
 7 THE DEFENDANT: Good morning.
 8 MS. HANDLEY: What we are doing, we have had
 9 lots of people come down. And you remember the Judge talking
 10 to you a little bit and filling out some questionnaires and we
 11 have gone through each one of those, hundreds of them and
 12 pulled out a select few to talk to one-on-one. We have about
 13 nine jurors in this case, we need 12. We have been doing this
 14 for several weeks now. And I think you can appreciate that
 15 the stakes don't get any higher than a case like this. We are
 16 talking about a death-penalty case. We are talking about life
 17 or death.
 18 I have noticed from your questionnaire, I don't think you
 19 have ever served on a jury before?
 20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's correct.
 21 MS. HANDLEY: And we really want to feel you out
 22 about that. I think it is a lot to ask maybe to have you
 23 involved in your first jury case for it to be a death-penalty
 24 case. This is just a world of difference from, you know,
 25 sitting on a theft of a bike, theft of a loaf of bread or

1 something. We want to talk to you a little bit about that and
 2 see if you are a qualified juror for this particular case?
 3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.
 4 MS. HANDLEY: Now, we have read your
 5 questionnaire. And I tell you that the reason we brought you
 6 down here is for the most part, Mr. Turbon, your answer is
 7 somewhat neutral, you are not at one end of the scale and not
 8 the other. If you were a person who said I think every case
 9 should be a death-penalty case, you wouldn't be here. If you
 10 were a person who said under no circumstances could I ever be
 11 involved in something like that, you wouldn't be here either.
 12 But it is a lot different to fill out a questionnaire and talk
 13 about it academically than to maybe sit around the coffee pot
 14 and talk about the death penalty to virtually actually be
 15 involved in something like that.
 16 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 17 MS. HANDLEY: Okay. You know just so there are
 18 no mistakes about what we are doing here today -- and I will
 19 tell you today whether or not you are going to be on or off
 20 this jury. So if you have any reservations about it, if you
 21 have any questions about it, now is the time to ask. It is
 22 not let me let them talk to me a little bit today and then I
 23 will come back and ask them some questions later. Today is
 24 the day to talk about it. And just out of respect for you and
 25 out of fairness to you, what we are doing so there is no

1 question in your mind speaking on behalf of the State in this
 2 particular case, we have one objective in this case, one sole
 3 goal in this case; and that is, to see that man at the end of
 4 that table strapped to a gurney someday being executed.
 5 That's our position in the case. And I tell you that just so
 6 you are not surprised if you end up on the jury and say, hey,
 7 wait a minute, they were serious about this.
 8 Now, how I feel about this case as a representative of
 9 the State, how they feel about it as Defense attorneys is safe
 10 to say are entirely different.
 11 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.
 12 MS. HANDLEY: But at this point what I think and
 13 what they think and that and a quarter can get you a cup of
 14 coffee. What is important, how you feel about the death
 15 penalty and particularly whether or not you could be a juror
 16 in a case like this.
 17 Let me just start out by saying, would it offend you if I
 18 thought you were probably young?
 19 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I wouldn't be offended.
 20 That would be a true statement.
 21 MS. HANDLEY: Anybody born after I graduated
 22 from high school I say is young. How do you feel being here
 23 today, Mr. Turbon, knowing that there is a probability that
 24 you may be involved in something like this?
 25 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Personally I am a little

1 excited. I understand the nature of the case, it is
 2 high-profile, there is a lot of high stakes, and I would be
 3 enthusiastic to hear both sides and to make a decision that
 4 has one of the greatest consequences I think I would ever be
 5 making.
 6 MS. HANDLEY: Absolutely. I don't think that
 7 could be said greater. Your decision, how you act in this
 8 case does have serious consequences. I will tell you just for
 9 your benefit in case you don't know, as I have stated, that is
 10 our goal to seek an execution in this case.
 11 And I believe that we have the type and the quality of
 12 evidence that is going to convince 12 people that this
 13 defendant is guilty of capital murder. I also feel that we
 14 have the type and quality of evidence that will convince 12
 15 people that a death sentence versus a life in prison sentence
 16 is the appropriate verdict in this case.
 17 Assuming that that is what happens and is found guilty
 18 and sentenced to death. The Judge in this case, Judge Ernest
 19 White would have no choice but basically to sign a death
 20 warrant. He doesn't second guess you. He doesn't say I don't
 21 agree with your decision. He has no choice but to sign the
 22 execution for that defendant. He is transferred in
 23 Livingston, Texas in East Texas to Huntsville.
 24 You ever been there before?
 25 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

1 MS. HANDLEY: For what purpose were you down
 2 there?
 3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: We actually stumbled up upon
 4 the jail on a family trip.
 5 MR. BEACH: Did you visit any of the jails?
 6 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 7 MS. HANDLEY: It is designated to the study of
 8 criminal justice system. And he will, on that particular day,
 9 the date before his execution, they are going to transfer him
 10 down to downtown Huntsville, Texas. In the middle of downtown
 11 Huntsville is a unit called the Walls Unit. It is a very old
 12 prison there. And that's where they actually carry out the
 13 executions. They will put him in a small isolated cell on
 14 that particular day.
 15 On the day of his execution, he will sit in that cell by
 16 himself. He will however be allowed to visit with a couple of
 17 people, maybe some family members, maybe a spiritual adviser
 18 if he so incline. He will get that famous last meal that
 19 people always hear about. He can order whatever he wants as
 20 long as it is on the prison menu.
 21 Comes six o'clock, that's when we perform our executions
 22 here in Texas, he will be transferred down that narrow hallway
 23 to the death chamber. Whether he go willingly or kicking and
 24 begging for mercy, he is going to go. There are people who
 25 are trained to get him from that chamber down to that death

1 chamber. The death chamber is a small room. Last time I saw
2 it, it was an industrial green or gray. It is a sterile
3 environment. It is basically a hospital bed, kind of like a
4 gurney. They are going to put him on it and strap him down.
5 Whether he likes it or not, he is going to be strapped down.

6 Prior to his execution, there are two windows in that
7 death chamber, Mr. Turbon, and these curtains will go back.
8 On one side, he can have representatives of his family, his
9 attorneys whoever he is so inclined. On the other side, the
10 curtains will open, there will be representatives for the
11 victim's family in the particular case.

12 An individual will put an intravenous line into his arm
13 at this time. He would be given an opportunity to make a last
14 statement. I am sure you can imagine many things have been
15 said over the course of many years. Some people may
16 apologize, some may protest their innocence or guilt, and say
17 y'all got it wrong; but regardless, he is going to have that
18 line put into his arm. Once he is finished saying whatever he
19 is inclined to say, the warden is going to give a nod to an
20 individual who is going to start hitting a series of buttons.
21 These buttons have designed to start releasing chemicals
22 through that intravenous line. And they do three things. The
23 first thing they do, they kind of knock him out, sedate him.
24 The second thing that will happen is his lungs will cease up.
25 And the third thing, it will stop his heart. And whether that

1 takes four minutes, six minutes or eight minutes, those
2 chemicals are going to flow long enough for it to take until
3 he is pronounced dead by a doctor.

4 I don't tell you that to be morbid or anything, but just
5 to impress upon you exactly what happens in a case like this.
6 And to also bring you to the forefront that I am not talking
7 about a fictitious character. I am talking about you being
8 involved in something, that process that would ultimately
9 cause the death of that man seated down there at the end of
10 the table.

11 My question to you, Mr. Turbon, seeking in your heart, do
12 you honestly think that you could be a part of a process that
13 may very well result in the death of that man down there?

14 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have given it some thought
15 between the time I came here to fill this out and with your
16 telling of the process there, I feel that I could return a
17 death penalty verdict, if the evidence so supports.

18 MS. HANDLEY: Even with you being just -- you
19 are 24 years ever age; is that correct, sir?

20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's correct.

21 MS. HANDLEY: Twenty-four years of age, you are
22 in the shank of your life right now, you have a lot of places
23 to go, a lot of things to do still, that's something that you
24 are comfortable being involved in at such a young age?

25 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It is.

1 MS. HANDLEY: There may very well come a day,
2 Mr. Turbon, when you are watching the TV somewhere in the
3 future and they are going to say, hey, tonight is the night
4 for the execution of Wesley Ruiz and it is something that a
5 lot of people say and I think is fair to say would stay with
6 you for rest of your life, and you are telling us that you are
7 fine with something like that?

8 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

9 MS. HANDLEY: Having looked at your
10 questionnaire, is there anything that you would change if you
11 had to fill it out again today?

12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I looked over it and as you
13 know it is pretty exhaustive and I was going through it pretty
14 quick. All in all I agree with what I wrote the first time
15 around.

16 MS. HANDLEY: Okay. Let's talk specifically
17 about your questionnaire, and let's talk to you about a few
18 more preliminary matters. We will talk about the criminal
19 trial process in general and then more specifically a death
20 penalty case.

21 Let me start out by telling you what our schedule is. We
22 have nine jurors so far. I anticipate that this case will
23 actually start around mid-April, okay. Once it begins, I
24 believe that it would take anywhere from five to eight working
25 days to actually put on the bulk of the case. We usually work

1 9:00 to 5:00. We don't normally work on weekends. You
2 usually go home at night and do whatever you have to do. The
3 only thing I can't anticipate how long it would take is a
4 jury's deliberation. That can take anywhere from 20 minutes
5 to two days, that I don't know. That's something we really
6 can't crystal ball. You usually go home at night. There is
7 an exception, once you start deliberations, sometimes we have
8 to sequester a jury. And that basically means we send you and
9 the 11 other folks to a hotel room and stay there for the
10 night. You don't go home, you don't talk to your family, it
11 is for the purpose of keeping you sequestered so you don't
12 have outside influences. I don't think you have children or
13 anything to worry about, maybe if you have dog, you may have
14 to get someone to let the dog out. Knowing that, does that
15 square with your schedule, is that something you could do and
16 give your full attention to the trial in the case?

17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I could.

18 MS. HANDLEY: Okay. Fantastic. I have looked
19 at your questionnaire here, and on page three we asked you
20 about what crimes do you think death penalty should be
21 available. You put down murder, repeated cases of sex
22 offenders and repeated rape. I will tell you, Mr. Turbon, in
23 Texas, there actually only is select type of case in which the
24 death penalty is actually an available option. Okay. All
25 murder cases, the death penalty is not necessarily an

1 available option. If I were to pull a gun out of my briefcase
2 right now, Mr. McCallum, my co-counsel, is minding his
3 business, if I just blow his brains out right here, laugh
4 about it, dance around his body, shoot him again just for good
5 measures, I think you would agree that is a pretty horrific
6 murder?

7 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

8 MS. HANDLEY: The most I could get in a case
9 like that, Mr. Turbon, is life in prison. Because it is not
10 one of those select types of cases to which the death penalty
11 applies. You put down that you think it should apply to
12 repeated rape cases, I believe. I will tell you that that
13 doesn't necessarily -- that is not a case where the death
14 penalty would apply to. A serial rapist I think you have in
15 mind.

16 It applies in cases such as what we are here for today,
17 murder of a peace officer in the line of duty. It applies to
18 murder of a child under six years of age or murder of an
19 individual 65 years of age or older. If I were to kill or
20 someone were to kill two or more people in the same criminal
21 transaction or a serial murder that's the kind of case a death
22 penalty could apply.

23 Classic example a person goes into a convenience store
24 with intent of robbing the store and kills the clerk in the
25 process. In other words, a murder committed during a serious

1 felony offense, the death penalty would be an option. A
2 rapist who also kills his victim. It is a very narrowly
3 defined category of cases there. And it does not apply, for
4 example what you have put here, though, are you okay with the
5 statutory scheme as I set it out for you today?

6 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

7 MS. HANDLEY: If you were Governor Turbon for
8 today, would you expand the category to which death penalty
9 could apply?

10 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't believe I would, no.

11 MS. HANDLEY: Very good, then. You have put
12 down also with respect to your answer about the murder of a
13 police officer, demonstrating at least to me that you are
14 neutral on this, and you say it is to be considered on a
15 case-by-case circumstance, and you are absolutely right by
16 that Mr. Turbon. There is nothing automatic about a
17 death-penalty sentence. Some people come in with the
18 misconception, I don't blame them, if you are guilty of
19 capital murder, means you are executed. And it is not that at
20 all. It is determined on a case-by-case basis, going on --
21 and a willingness to keep your mind open and to consider all
22 the particular facts in the case.

23 Let's talk a little bit about the criminal trial. And
24 before we go on, before we start talking about the death
25 penalty, in a death-penalty case, finding someone guilty of

1 capital murder, you as a juror have one or two options, and
2 that's either death sentence, the person will be executed or
3 they will receive life imprisonment without parole. Those are the
4 only two options that will be available to you as a juror in a
5 death-penalty case. In -- for lack of a better word, in a
6 regular murder case, if you would, where I have shot my
7 co-counsel, it is pretty heinous, it is not a capital case, it
8 is a regular murder case, if you will.

9 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

10 MS. HANDLEY: The options available to a jury in
11 that case is wide open. You could assess a punishment
12 anywhere from as low as five years imprisonment all the way up to
13 life imprisonment for a case such as that. The reason that is,
14 Mr. Turbon, because I think you could probably imagine no two
15 defendants are ever alike. No two murder cases are ever
16 alike. I have been doing this over 15 years and I have never
17 seen two defendants alike or a case alike. You have a broad
18 spectrum to choose from because there are so many different
19 options of murder.

20 Me killing my co-counsel and laughing about it is an
21 example of murder. An example of another murder is a couple
22 that has been married over 60 years, they are in their late
23 80s. The wife comes down with horrible cancer.

24 MR. BRAUCHLE: Your Honor, once again we would
25 renew our options.

1 THE COURT: Overruled.

2 MS. HANDLEY: She is --

3 MR. BRAUCHLE: May we have a running option?

4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: You may.

5 MS. HANDLEY: She is suffering and in a great
6 deal of pain and doesn't want to live any longer, so out of
7 loving kindness he pulls the plug. Guess what, Mr. Turbon,
8 that's an intentional murder, that is first degree.

9 MR. BRAUCHLE: We object to that as the
10 definition of intentional murder.

11 THE COURT: Overruled.

12 MS. HANDLEY: That's an example where that could
13 be considered an intentional murder.

14 MR. BRAUCHLE: Once again we renew our
15 objection.

16 THE COURT: Overruled.

17 MS. HANDLEY: You could see then, Mr. Turbon,
18 that the fact situations of those two murder cases are very
19 broadly different perhaps. You might think that. And in a
20 case unlike that, you are given that wide spectrum of
21 punishment to choose from. The question becomes for you,
22 Mr. Turbon, in order to be a qualified juror, you have to
23 agree in a regular murder case, you would look at the fact
24 situation, the circumstances of that particular case, and you
25 would assess the punishment that you felt was appropriate for

1 that particular case. If you felt that life imprisonment were
 2 appropriate for a particular case, that you would do that. If
 3 you felt that the facts and the circumstances of a murder case
 4 that five years imprisonment was the appropriate thing to do, then
 5 you would do what you thought was the proper thing to do and
 6 again five years imprisonment. Do you, Mr. Turbon -- could you
 7 follow the law in that and base your verdict on what you
 8 thought was the proper thing to do in a particular case?
 9 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: In a regular murder case or
 10 in a capital case.
 11 MS. HANDLEY: Yes, in a regular murder case?
 12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, yeah.
 13 MS. HANDLEY: If you felt five years imprisonment
 14 was the proper thing to do, could you do that?
 15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 16 MS. HANDLEY: If you felt 30 years was, could
 17 you?
 18 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 19 MS. HANDLEY: And if you felt life was, could
 20 you?
 21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: (Nods head).
 22 MS. HANDLEY: And again that's kind of a theme
 23 that prevails through all criminal cases that you always have
 24 to do what is right for that particular case, what is the
 25 right thing for the circumstances of that particular case,

1 that's talking about a murder case.
 2 Let's talk about a death-penalty case. Let's talk about
 3 how we do criminal trial. I think maybe a good analogy in any
 4 criminal trial is sort of like a two-act play. There is a
 5 first part where the jury decides whether or not the defendant
 6 is guilty, and then the second part, well, we found the
 7 defendant guilty, what are we going to do about it, okay.
 8 In the first part of any criminal case, be it theft of a
 9 bicycle, in any criminal case, there are certain fundamental
 10 propositions of law that apply in every case. In order for
 11 you to be a qualified juror, you have to, first of all, agree
 12 to follow the law, okay. And you have to, second, agree to
 13 base your verdict on the evidence in the case and nothing
 14 else. For example you can't say, I will always find a person
 15 guilty of this because I promised my father I would or
 16 something like that. So certain fundamental propositions of
 17 law apply, laws that you have to be able to follow in any
 18 criminal case.
 19 As a representative of the State, I will tell you that it
 20 is always the State that has to prove this case to you. The
 21 defendant has absolutely no burden in this case whatsoever.
 22 We do the charging; therefore, we ought to have to do the
 23 proving. We ought to have to carry that burden, and it always
 24 should be our obligation to prove the case to you beyond a
 25 reasonable doubt.

1 I think that you might have before you a copy of the
 2 indictment. Do you see that up there Mr. Turbon?
 3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 4 MS. HANDLEY: Go ahead and take a look at that,
 5 and I will tell you that -- that that pretty much -- that sets
 6 out, if you will, the elements of the offense, the things that
 7 we have to prove to you beyond a reasonable doubt. And I will
 8 just paraphrase. It shows you there that we have to prove to
 9 you that on a particular date or on or about a particular
 10 date, in Dallas County, Texas, that this defendant did
 11 intentionally or knowingly kill a peace officer, he knew he
 12 was a peace officer, he was in the line of duty, and he killed
 13 him by shooting him with a firearm. Those are the elements
 14 that we have to prove to you. We have to prove to you each
 15 element, not five out of six, you know, but every single
 16 element up there, prove each of those elements to you beyond a
 17 reasonable doubt.
 18 Let me give you an extreme example right now, that would
 19 touch on your qualifications on whether or not you could be a
 20 juror. I have to prove all the elements to you okay. And one
 21 is not more important than the other. Let's say we put on our
 22 entire case to you, but we have failed to bring you any
 23 evidence whatsoever of where this offense happened. We
 24 haven't brought you a thread of evidence to show you it
 25 happened in Dallas County. Or worst yet, we show you it

1 happened in Dallas County. If we failed to prove to you,
 2 Mr. Turbon, it was Dallas County, the Judge would instruct you
 3 that you must return a verdict of not guilty, because we
 4 failed to prove each and every element of the indictment.
 5 Might make you sick. We would be looking for a new job, I can
 6 guarantee you, we had long enough time to get ready for this
 7 case, we know that. But the law would say that you would have
 8 to find the defendant not guilty, and you might in all
 9 likelihood go down the same elevator with the man that you
 10 otherwise was convinced of killed a peace officer.
 11 Is that a law that you could follow, Mr. Turbon, if it
 12 came down to that?
 13 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I could.
 14 MS. HANDLEY: And that indictment in front of
 15 you Mr. Turbon is just that, it's a piece of paper. It tells
 16 me as a representative of the State what I have to prove
 17 beyond a reasonable doubt and it gives the defendant and his
 18 attorneys notice of what he has been charged with. It is just
 19 that, it is a piece of paper. The Judge would instruct you
 20 that you could not consider it as a piece of evidence against
 21 the defendant. Some people say we are in a courtroom right
 22 now, I see bailiffs, I see attorneys, where there is smoke,
 23 there is fire, he must have done something because he has been
 24 indicted. The law says that you may not consider that as a
 25 piece of evidence against the defendant.

1 Is that a law you could follow also?
 2 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 3 MS. HANDLEY: The reason that is, Mr. Turbon, as
 4 I said before is because we have to prove this case to you by
 5 bringing you evidence. As the defendant sits before you
 6 today, you are to presume him innocent.
 7 Have I brought you any evidence whatsoever at this point.
 8 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 9 MS. HANDLEY: No, I haven't. And so at this
 10 point, you are to presume him innocent. Until I start to
 11 bring you evidence. Until I have convinced you beyond a
 12 reasonable doubt of the defendant's guilt, he will enjoy that
 13 presumption of innocence and you must give him that
 14 presumption of innocence until I have proved that to you
 15 otherwise.
 16 Is that a law that you can also follow?
 17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 18 MS. HANDLEY: I have to prove this case to you,
 19 I have to prove the defendant's guilt, that is, to you beyond
 20 a reasonable doubt. I think we hear that all the time on
 21 legal programs, there are books called that. I will tell you
 22 that there is no legal definition of beyond a reasonable
 23 doubt. Quite frankly it is whatever you think it is, okay.
 24 It is not, I think I can say safely, it is not beyond all
 25 doubt whatsoever. I don't think I could ever prove anything

1 evidence to you. Always look to this table. You never look
 2 to that side of the courtroom for evidence in a case. I am
 3 sure you have heard of a person's Fifth Amendment. Your right
 4 to remain silent. That applies in every criminal case. If
 5 the defendant elects to testify in his case, if he wants to
 6 take the stand and testify, then you by all means consider his
 7 testimony, judge his credibility at that point. Decide if you
 8 think he is telling the truth, what kind of weight you are
 9 going to give that if he elects to take the stand. If the
 10 defendant elects not to testify, the Judge will tell you that
 11 you cannot hold that as evidence against him. You cannot use
 12 that as evidence against him.
 13 Is that a law that you can follow?
 14 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 15 MS. HANDLEY: Who do you always look to to prove
 16 the case to you?
 17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: The prosecution.
 18 MS. HANDLEY: If I don't prove to you beyond a
 19 reasonable doubt and the defendant did not testify, what are
 20 you going to do?
 21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Innocent.
 22 MS. HANDLEY: Absolutely. You can't use that to
 23 get me over that hump. Very good. If, Mr. Turbon, we prove
 24 the case to you beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant
 25 is in fact guilty of capital murder the intentional and

1 to you beyond all doubt whatsoever. But let me throw that
 2 back to you, and ask you, Mr. Turbon, if you had to find
 3 someone guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, what do you
 4 personally think that that means?
 5 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, without hearing all
 6 the evidence, it is hard to say in this particular case, what
 7 a reasonable doubt would be. But a reasonable doubt -- again
 8 hard to say without any evidence for this case.
 9 MS. HANDLEY: Sure. Some people say that I need
 10 to be convinced?
 11 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.
 12 MS. HANDLEY: Some people say I got to be
 13 absolutely sure. Some say I got to feel it in my gut. Really
 14 it is whatever you think it is, but it is not beyond all doubt
 15 whatsoever.
 16 And I will say to you, Mr. Turbon, that it is a very high
 17 standard and it should be. It should be. It is a very high
 18 standard. It is a high standard for a reason. We are talking
 19 about life and death here. We are talking about somebody's
 20 freedom. It is a high standard. And would you continue to
 21 hold us to that high standard of proof before you could find
 22 the defendant guilty?
 23 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Of course.
 24 MR. BEACH: Along the lines of evidence, as I
 25 told you before, it is always our obligation to bring the

1 knowing murder of a police officer during the line of his
 2 duty, then you have an obligation at that point; and that is,
 3 to return a verdict of guilty, of finding him guilty of
 4 capital murder. That you know that means we go on to a very
 5 serious stage that the point.
 6 Are you able and willing to do so?
 7 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 8 MS. HANDLEY: At that point we are at the end of
 9 the first part of a trial, we are at the two-part play, we are
 10 at the end of act one, the curtain has gone down were you
 11 going to all go out for intermission and have a Pepsi or
 12 something, do you know how the trial is going to end at that
 13 point?
 14 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, one of two options.
 15 MS. HANDLEY: Do you know which one it is going
 16 to be?
 17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 18 MS. HANDLEY: And you don't know because there
 19 is a whole 'nother second act to this play, there is a whole
 20 bunch of other evidence that may be heard. It is an entire
 21 different part at this point. The first part was to decide
 22 whether he was guilty of the charge of capital murder. He
 23 carried that presumption of innocence until we took that away
 24 and proved him guilty. Going into the second phase now, now
 25 you are being confronted with that question of whether or not

1 he will receive life imprisonment or death. And I will repeat
2 again, Mr. Turbon, that there is nothing automatic about it.
3 Just because a person has been found guilty of intentional
4 murder, does not mean that they automatically would receive
5 the death penalty.

6 Is that something that you are okay with and a law that
7 you can agree to follow that just because they are guilty of
8 capital murder, doesn't mean you are automatically going to
9 give them a death sentence?

10 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I can.

11 MS. HANDLEY: The way we do that, Mr. Turbon, we
12 don't ask you and the other jurors to go in the back and give
13 you a piece of paper and ask you to think about it, should we
14 give him life or death, that is not the way that a death
15 sentence or life imprisonment sentence is imposed. The way you do
16 that is by answering a series of questions. Based upon how
17 you answer those questions will determine whether or not they
18 receive death or life imprisonment. There is something important
19 for you to understand going into the second phase of the
20 trial. Okay. At that point you found him guilty of capital
21 murder. And as you know there are one of two things that can
22 happen, life or death right. Going into that second phase of
23 the trial, Mr. Turbon, remember we talked about he enjoyed a
24 presumption of innocence in the first part. He enjoys another
25 presumption in the capital murder case.

1 Going into the second part of the trial, he enjoys the
2 presumption that life imprisonment is the sentence he deserves.
3 There is nothing automatic about it. But going in you are to
4 presume that the proper thing to do before you have heard any
5 evidence is to give him a life sentence in prison. Only until
6 I can convince you beyond a reasonable doubt that it should be
7 a death sentence does that presumption go away.

8 Does that make sense to you?

9 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.

10 MS. HANDLEY: So going in, the best he will ever
11 do, Mr. Turbon, is a life sentence because it is one of two
12 things. You go presuming that's the right thing to do. And
13 you don't change your mind until what?

14 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Until you have proven beyond
15 a reasonable doubt that that sentence is appropriate.

16 MS. HANDLEY: Absolutely. That is absolutely
17 correct. We have you go back there and have you answer a
18 couple of questions. The first question we have you answer is
19 that first special issue there. Look to your left and read
20 that first one to yourself?

21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.

22 MS. HANDLEY: Okay. I think what we sometimes
23 refer to that is the future dangerousness question. And
24 basically it is asking you to decide whether or not you
25 believe beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant will

1 continue to be a future danger, continue to be a threat to
2 whatever society it is that he lives in, right. You know it
3 starts off, do you find from the evidence beyond a reasonable
4 doubt. That reasonable doubt goes to our burden of proof.
5 That's something that you are looking to the State all the
6 time to prove something to you beyond a reasonable doubt.
7 That very high threshold of proof. It is asking you, did we
8 prove to you beyond a reasonable doubt these propositions
9 right there. As with the definition of reasonable doubt,
10 Mr. Turbon, they don't really define for you what these words
11 mean.

12 This isn't something we wrote at the D.A.'s office. We
13 didn't come up with this at court. This is written by your
14 legislature. And they have purposely not defined these
15 particular words. Let's go through them and talk about them
16 one at a time.

17 Do you find beyond a reasonable doubt that there is a
18 probability that the defendant will commit criminal acts of
19 violence? Probability. Probability, that word right there,
20 you watch the weather forecast, right?

21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: (Nods head).

22 MS. HANDLEY: Would you agree with me,
23 Mr. Turbon, the weatherman said it could possibly rain versus
24 it will probably rain, which is more likely, which is
25 stronger?

1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Probable.

2 MS. HANDLEY: Anything is possible. It is
3 possible that I could win Olympic golds in the next summer
4 games. Anything is possible. Probable is you have to agree
5 something a lot stronger than a possibility. Some people
6 define probability as more likely than not. The greater than
7 a 50 percent chance.

8 Does that sound like how you would define probability,
9 Mr. Turbon?

10 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

11 MS. HANDLEY: Any different thought on how you
12 would think probability?

13 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

14 MS. HANDLEY: More likely than not, greater than
15 a possibility?

16 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.

17 MS. HANDLEY: That the defendant would commit
18 criminal acts of violence. It doesn't say that the defendant
19 will commit another murder. They didn't say that there is a
20 probability that the defendant will commit a rape. They
21 didn't specifically set out what criminal act of violence you
22 might would probably believe that he would do. They left that
23 wide open.

24 If I were to stand up, balled my fist up, walk over to my
25 co-counsel here, Andy Beach, and just clock him in the face;

1 would you agree with me that that is a criminal act of
2 violence?

3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

4 MS. HANDLEY: I am hitting him, it is violent:
5 I am sure he wouldn't appreciate it. They don't say what
6 criminal act of violence, that's for you to decide, that he
7 would constitute a continuing threat to society. Now, when I
8 think of society, I think of driving my car on the streets,
9 going to the grocery store, I think of society at large. But
10 at this point he has been found guilty of capital murder. So
11 where is he going to be the rest of his life?

12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: In prison.

13 MR. BEACH: So when they say society, what do
14 you think they are talking about there?

15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: In this case, it would be
16 prison.

17 MS. HANDLEY: Prison society. Perhaps prison
18 society. You would agree with me, Mr. Turbon, within the
19 prison there are more than just prisoners, aren't there?
20 There are guards, there are educators, there are
21 administrators, medical personnel, people visiting, coming to
22 the prison. So it is kind of a society in and among itself.

23 And would your definition of prison society include that
24 it's kind of part of the larger society as a whole?

25 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

1 MS. HANDLEY: We are out here, but it is also a
2 society in and of itself. And unless he were to escape,
3 that's the society he will be a part of for the rest of his
4 life. So that first special issue is asking of you, have we
5 proved to you beyond a reasonable doubt that a defendant will
6 probably commit criminal acts of violence in whatever society
7 he is in. And that those criminal acts of violence would
8 constitute a continuing threat to society.

9 Does that make sense to you, does that make sense what we
10 are saying there?

11 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

12 MS. HANDLEY: If we prove that to you, because
13 at this point you presume that a life sentence is the
14 appropriate thing to do, right? If we have proved that to you
15 beyond a reasonable doubt, what does that mean to you at that
16 point? That means that your answer to that question now is
17 what?

18 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: If you have proven that,
19 then it is a death penalty.

20 MS. HANDLEY: The answer to that question is
21 "yes". Because going in, you assume that the answer to that
22 question is "no"?

23 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.

24 MS. HANDLEY: By answering that question "yes",
25 we have now elevated that life imprisonment sentence, we have now

1 elevated it up to a death penalty sentence. We are not finish
2 with the play yet. We don't know how it is going to finish.
3 We have elevated that up to a death sentence. He has earned a
4 death sentence, but you are not finished yet at that point.
5 You still have to answer one more question. Go ahead and read
6 that second question to yourself.

7 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: (Witness complies.)

8 MS. HANDLEY: Quite a bit to take in, isn't it?

9 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

10 MS. HANDLEY: What do you think that is asking
11 you?

12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Even if the first one is
13 answered positively, that in this case, he can have the option
14 to go with life imprisonment without parole because of the
15 circumstances.

16 MS. HANDLEY: You are absolutely right. You are
17 dead on right, Mr. Turbon. We call it a safety-net question.
18 I think it is fair to say that in Texas, criminal justice, our
19 jurors are always given options a plenty. You are not going
20 to walk out of here going, you know what, he is guilty of
21 capital murder, he is a future threat to society, but there
22 was something else I think was important to consider and I
23 think it should have been weighed into the ultimate decision
24 and that option wasn't available to me. We are not going to
25 let you leave it like that. You are going to have that second

1 chance. It is a safety-net question to go back and consider
2 everything in its entirety. You see on that second question,
3 Mr. Turbon, there is no burden of proof there. Okay. I don't
4 necessarily have to bring you anything, they never have to
5 bring you anything. There is no burden of proof there. But
6 what you are looking at, you are looking at the circumstances
7 of the criminal offense. You are looking at any other
8 evidence that might have been brought to you in the second
9 part of the trial. You know it speaks to the defendant's
10 character, background and personal moral culpability. Some
11 might say the blameworthiness of the defendant is what they
12 are looking at. That maybe we are looking to see if there
13 isn't something there, a reason to show mercy. You know.
14 Something about his character. Something about his
15 background. We don't execute retarded -- mentally retarded
16 people in Texas -- or in the United States, I will tell you
17 that.

18 But some people have said that maybe he is not
19 technically mentally retarded, maybe he is extremely slow.
20 Maybe he is just on that cusp there and he is not like other
21 people. Maybe look at his circumstances and background, and
22 from the day he was born, he suffered severe physical and
23 sexual abuse. You know maybe he was a person that was raised
24 to be a monster; and guess what, he is. And the people who
25 ought to be on trial with him are his parents. You know, it

1 is quite a leap. I think as you can see, because you have
2 found him guilty of capital murder. And you have found that
3 he is a threat to society. But now, you are saying but you
4 know what, I am going to show that mercy and I am going to
5 bring that sentence back down to a life sentence. I can't
6 commit you to what you might think could be a mitigating
7 circumstance, you know, what becomes important, Mr. Turbon, is
8 if you see it, if you think it is sufficiently mitigating,
9 that you would follow your oath as a juror and bring that
10 death sentence back down to a life sentence.

11 Do you think that that's something that you could do and
12 would do if you saw that kind of evidence?

13 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

14 MS. HANDLEY: Let's back up a little bit, let me
15 ask you about special issue number one, about is there a
16 probability that he would commit criminal acts of violence.
17 In deciding a question like that, what would you be looking
18 for to help you make that determination as to whether or not a
19 defendant would be a continuing threat to society?

20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Probably the circumstance of
21 the murder if he was proven guilty, because we would be there
22 at this point. If the circumstances showed that he
23 intentionally and -- murdered this officer. And if he is an
24 individual that would do it in the future. Specifically, I
25 can't think of anything in particular, but if -- if it was

1 special circumstance where this was a one-time situation,
2 where the act was committed --

3 MS. HANDLEY: Uh-huh.

4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: -- then he would probably
5 not be a continuing threat.

6 MS. HANDLEY: Now, you spoke that you would be
7 looking to see if it was intentional. I will tell you that
8 before you can find a person guilty of this capital murder,
9 you will have found beyond a reasonable doubt the murder was
10 intentional killing. It was no accident, it was no
11 self-defense. It was an intentional killing, okay.

12 For you to find that special issue number one "yes", you
13 know, and you may properly look at the circumstances of the
14 offense in deciding that question, are you saying that you
15 would automatically answer that question "yes" just because it
16 was an intentional murder?

17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

18 MS. HANDLEY: Okay. And I will kind of jump
19 back a little bit more, even there, we have talked about it is
20 an intentional murder of another individual, it is not an
21 accident, it is not self-defense.

22 If I were to be sitting here right now, you know just
23 minding my business, talking to you, and Officer Crump over
24 here, he is a peace officer as you can see, if he were to walk
25 over just now, You know what, Handley, I have been listening

1 to you six-week now, I am tired of listening to you, I am
2 going to kill you, he took out his handgun and cocked the
3 trigger back. And I thought, my God, this man is going to
4 kill me. And I turned around and we struggled for the gun and
5 I felt if I don't kill him, he is going to kill me, and I shot
6 him dead right here, that would be self-defense. It may very
7 well be self-defense, I have killed a peace officer, right?

8 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

9 MS. HANDLEY: I have killed a man right now who
10 is acting in the line of his duties, isn't he? Well, the law
11 says if I have a reasonable belief that my life is in jeopardy
12 and the only option I have at that point is to take the life
13 of the other person, the law says that I can do that.

14 Is that a law that you can agree with?

15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

16 MS. HANDLEY: Regardless if he is a peace
17 officer, you know, regardless if he is my co-counsel or man on
18 the street. If I have a reasonable belief, if I think he is
19 using excessive force against me. I feel I have no other
20 option than to protect my life. I could take that life and
21 that's self-defense. Then I walk out of here, I don't get
22 probation or five years, I walk out of here as an absolute
23 defense to murder.

24 Is that a law that you can agree with and is that a law
25 that you would be willing to follow?

1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

2 MS. HANDLEY: Do you have any questions of me
3 about the entire process, the death-penalty process, anything
4 about these questions here?

5 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. You have articulated
6 the process well and answered all the questions I had.

7 MS. HANDLEY: Because we both get a chance to
8 talk to you, so if there is anything that you always wanted to
9 know from the prosecution's standpoint, now would be the time
10 to ask us?

11 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

12 MS. HANDLEY: Thank you very much for answering
13 my questions.

14 I will pass this juror, Judge.

15 MR. JOHNSON: May we have a short break?

16 THE COURT: You may.

17 Mr. Turbon, if you will step down. We will take a short
18 break.

19 (Prospective juror retired from the courtroom.)

20 (Recess taken.)

21 THE BAILIFF: All rise for the juror.

22 (Prospective juror returned to the courtroom.)

23 THE COURT: You may be seated.

24 And you may proceed.

25 MR. JOHNSON: May it please the Court?

1
2 **VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION**
3 **BY MR. JOHNSON:**
4 MR. JOHNSON: Good morning, Mr. Turbon.
5 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Good morning.
6 MR. JOHNSON: My name is Karo Johnson. I am a
7 criminal defense attorney. Mr. Paul Brauchle is seated with
8 me. Please, sir, it is our honor to represent Mr. Wesley
9 Ruiz.
10 Let's start with some housekeeping matters. First off, I
11 am going to talk to you for a little while just like the
12 prosecutors did. And I will start by telling you that our
13 assessment of this case is completely different than their
14 assessment of the case. Of course that probably doesn't
15 surprise you does it?
16 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, not at all.
17 MR. JOHNSON: Let me start by pointing out to
18 you, that you and I are actually neighbors, we actually live
19 in what I call the Wood, Lakewood. Did you go to Woodrow?
20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I did.
21 MR. JOHNSON: Believe it or not I did too, a few
22 years before you, did you have Mr. Evett as one of your
23 teachers at Woodrow, was he there?
24 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He was there, I did not
25 have him. I had a similar teacher, couldn't get into Evett's

1 class.
2 MR. BEACH: My daughter graduated from Woodrow.
3 I don't know if you saw the newspaper today. Did you see the
4 editorial section of the Dallas Morning News today.
5 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I didn't.
6 MR. JOHNSON: There is actually an editorial
7 about Woodrow. About how good of a school it was. And I was
8 listening to your answers, and I was thinking that you may
9 have had Mr. Evett. But you said you had someone like him; is
10 that right?
11 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
12 MR. JOHNSON: When I was at Woodrow, I had a
13 teacher named Mr. Stewart. And he was somebody who was
14 thought-provoking and I think did a great job in getting me
15 ready for college. And from just listening to you today,
16 sounds like Woodrow did a good job with you too.
17 I also noticed that you went to LSU?
18 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
19 MR. JOHNSON: And you graduated?
20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.
21 MR. JOHNSON: You are one of the few people that
22 actually went to LSU and graduated?
23 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I didn't in four years.
24 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, I saw you put five.
25 Let me explain some things about the fact that we live

58

1 close to each other. Do you go to Lakewood Country Club?
2 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
3 MR. JOHNSON: My daughter was basically the head
4 lifeguard there for the last couple of years, Alice Simpson.
5 Do you know Alice at all?
6 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I didn't spend time at
7 the pool area.
8 MR. JOHNSON: What do you do when you go to the
9 club?
10 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Eat and golf.
11 MR. JOHNSON: One of the things that caught my
12 attention, you put something down there that really kind of
13 warmed my heart actually on page 16, list the one person that
14 you feel most influence your person and why. And you put your
15 stepfather. He shaped my upbringing and gave me financial
16 support for college, I think is what you are saying. Okay. I
17 am hoping by the time my daughter is your age she would
18 actually put that down as well. I don't think she would put
19 that down right now, maybe in a few more year?
20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I wouldn't have at her age
21 either, there is still hope.
22 MR. JOHNSON: Tell me about your stepfather.
23 Who is your stepfather?
24 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Doug Nichols. And he --
25 my dad, although he was successful in his own right, he didn't

59

1 really support me in my college decision, the school I wanted
2 to go to. He wanted me to stay in state. I chose LSU because
3 I really wanted to go there, I was passionate about going
4 there. Doug, my stepdad, who I am known since I was five
5 years old. And I spent more time with him than I did my dad,
6 because my Dad moved to Austin. So I really grew up with my
7 mom and stepdad. Doug was really like my surrogate father.
8 And so paid for school. He said he would make up the
9 difference whatever dad wasn't willing to pay for. He got me
10 a car and paid for school and really supportive throughout
11 choices that I made.
12 MR. JOHNSON: That's great. What does your
13 stepfather do?
14 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He trade stocks and does
15 some investment banking, the finance side of things.
16 MR. JOHNSON: Do you still stay in his house?
17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
18 MR. JOHNSON: Who lives on Lakewood is that your
19 place?
20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, I live there, I rent
21 with two roommates, we rent the house.
22 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. It is a nice spot. When
23 you work out, what kind of workouts do you do? You said you
24 worked out?
25 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just go to the gym and lift

1 weights.
 2 MR. JOHNSON: Which gym?
 3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Lakewood Gym.
 4 MR. JOHNSON: Go to the club?
 5 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. Lakewood gym in the
 6 Albertson's Shopping Center.
 7 MR. BRAUCHLE: All right. I see you also have
 8 some siblings that are at Woodrow as well. And I don't
 9 recognize their names. Although your brother Richard is the
 10 same age as my son. My son actually goes to Bishop Lynch. So
 11 I don't know if they know each other or not. Does Richard go
 12 to the Club some?
 13 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh, yeah, and he goes
 14 to Woodrow.
 15 MR. JOHNSON: He ever mentioned the name of
 16 Farrell Johnson to you?
 17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 18 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.
 19 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 20 MR. JOHNSON: I just wanted to make sure that we
 21 don't have any connections that everybody in here would need
 22 to be aware of. Doesn't sound like you actually would.
 23 Have you seen me before in the neighborhood?
 24 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 25 MR. JOHNSON: I will admit to you that I didn't

1 recognize you when you came to report to jury duty. I see you
 2 work for a meet company.
 3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's correct.
 4 MR. JOHNSON: What do you do for that company?
 5 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: The company, we are a meet
 6 supplier, we sell to high-end steakhouses and fine dining
 7 restaurants. One of our business segments is sells to Cisco,
 8 a food services distributor. And from an optional standpoint,
 9 I am responsible for all the Cisco orders getting filled. So
 10 coordinating with sales, coordinating with shipping,
 11 production, and just really insuring that the Cisco orders get
 12 filled.
 13 MR. JOHNSON: What times do you work, are you
 14 pretty busy with work, is that something going to interfere
 15 with being a juror on this case?
 16 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would be able to take off.
 17 I work standard days from 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. usually.
 18 MR. JOHNSON: So it is not going to be a
 19 problem?
 20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 21 MR. JOHNSON: Would you like some water?
 22 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I had some during the
 23 break, thank you.
 24 MR. JOHNSON: Now, at LSU, did I see that you
 25 majored in agri business?

1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's correct.
 2 MR. JOHNSON: You know, I am not familiar with
 3 that, what does that mean?
 4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That is the study of the
 5 business of agricultural and agricultural being the largest
 6 industry in the U.S., it is a large field of study. And it
 7 involves everything from studies future market to farm
 8 budgeting to economics, and it is a broad ranging -- similar
 9 to business with a little more emphasis on the commodity side.
 10 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Did that help you get the
 11 job that you have now?
 12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think it did.
 13 MR. JOHNSON: What do you plan to do beyond the
 14 job you have now?
 15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Actually I am looking at
 16 changing entries and getting into investment banking.
 17 MR. JOHNSON: Is that something your stepfather
 18 might help you do as well?
 19 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 20 MR. BRAUCHLE: What does your biological father
 21 do?
 22 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He is a real estate broker,
 23 residential real estate broker.
 24 MR. JOHNSON: Another thing on your
 25 questionnaire that I wanted to ask you about is on page three

1 at the bottom, that last question, can you expand on that
 2 answer a little bit and tell me why you feel the way you feel
 3 about what you said in that answer?
 4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think -- yeah, I read this
 5 earlier, and I miswrote in that last -- the last part of the
 6 second sentence, they are not more likely, it is sort of a
 7 disincentive, if you will.
 8 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.
 9 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: And if individuals feel
 10 there is no chance of being executed for killing a police
 11 officer -- okay, no, that's right, if they feel that there is
 12 the greatest consequence of murdering a police officer in the
 13 line of duty is life imprisonment, they might be more likely to do
 14 so than if the risk is death.
 15 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Now, the obvious question
 16 for me in regards to that is do you feel like if a person is
 17 convicted of a capital murder that involved the killing of a
 18 peace officer in the line of duty, if that is your answer to
 19 that, that almost sounds like you feel like it would be your
 20 obligation if you are on a jury that found a person guilty of
 21 that offense, it would be your objection to give someone the
 22 death penalty?
 23 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I don't agree with that.
 24 I believe that the capital punishment is a deterrent. And
 25 that as long as that option exists, that it works as a

1 deterrent. But under no circumstance an automatic sentence.
 2 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. You do understand of course
 3 that -- that a capital murder in Texas at this time, that the
 4 default sentence for that is life imprisonment without parole; you
 5 understand that?
 6 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 7 MR. JOHNSON: Would you change that if you had
 8 the ability, if you were like king of Texas?
 9 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 10 MR. JOHNSON: You know we get -- we have been
 11 doing this for several weeks now, and we have had a lot of
 12 people sitting in that chair that you are in, you know they
 13 say spice -- variety is the spice of life. You heard that
 14 before?
 15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 16 MR. JOHNSON: We have a lot of spice from the
 17 people sitting up there in that chair. We get a lot of
 18 variety from there. You notice that nobody is in this room
 19 other than you and the lawyer and court personnel. Now the
 20 reason that is so, so that the people who sit in that chair
 21 can be comfortable about expressing their opinions and views
 22 without being worried about somebody hearing something, okay.
 23 I will promise you that nobody in this room, especially me is
 24 going to try to tell you that whatever you think is wrong.
 25 All right. And I recognize that I am certainly not a good

66

1 them some closure or to give them -- to -- to give them the
 2 system -- that the system is fair and they should get -- not
 3 get something, but I think for the victim also.
 4 MR. JOHNSON: Do you believe in an eye for an
 5 eye?
 6 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not literally, no. But I
 7 think the punishment should be appropriate for the crime.
 8 MR. JOHNSON: You understand that Texas only has
 9 capital murder -- the death penalty, and specific offenses;
 10 you understand that?
 11 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: (Nods head).
 12 MR. JOHNSON: Not all murder cases are
 13 death-penalty cases, it has got to be murder plus something
 14 else. You understand that?
 15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 16 MR. JOHNSON: Now, do you think if somebody was
 17 convicted of murder without that extra ingredient, the
 18 victims, the family of that victim would not be able to have
 19 closure because the person committed that offense couldn't get
 20 the death penalty?
 21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think that the family
 22 could still have closure, but -- that's a tough one. It
 23 depends on the family, of course, and what their idea of
 24 closure is. So I would have to look at the case and look at
 25 what the family is looking for.

65

1 enough lawyer to get most people to change their opinions
 2 about matters of principle, okay. My wife proves that to me
 3 everyday. So that is not going to be something that I am
 4 going to be trying to do. So if there is something that you
 5 feel, you know, that you need to say about any of these
 6 issues, please feel free and comfortable in doing so.
 7 Now, let's talk about one of the things that you just
 8 said in regards to that question at the bottom of page three.
 9 You said that you feel like that this would be a deterrent,
 10 why do you feel that way?
 11 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Because if you are in a
 12 circumstance where you feel like the murder of a -- an officer
 13 is necessary for whatever reason, if you feel that the
 14 greatest thing that can happen to you for committing that
 15 crime is life imprisonment, you might be more likely to do so than
 16 if you feel like the greatest consequence of committing that
 17 is murder of yourself -- or the death penalty.
 18 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. And you think that that's a
 19 strong deterrent because they can get the death penalty?
 20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 21 MR. JOHNSON: Why do you think we should have
 22 the death penalty. Is there other reasons besides other than
 23 it might be a deterrent?
 24 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's my main reason. I
 25 think the other reason for the family of the victim. To give

67

1 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. You may or may not know
 2 the answer to that question in deciding between the life
 3 sentence -- the life penalty or the death penalty. Would that
 4 be a big enough factor in your deliberations that you might
 5 decide that you might need to give the death penalty to
 6 somebody just for your concerns about the victim's family.
 7 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, that wouldn't have great
 8 enough weight to be a tipping point in my decision.
 9 MR. JOHNSON: Now, do you feel like the states
 10 that don't have the death penalty are less safe than Texas is
 11 because we have the death penalty?
 12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I bet statistics could
 13 reveal that, and I haven't seen them. Personal feeling, I
 14 would have to look at probably some data.
 15 MR. JOHNSON: Then why wouldn't those states
 16 have the death penalty if that's what the data say?
 17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Because the moral beliefs of
 18 the majority of the citizen of that state.
 19 MR. JOHNSON: Talk to me about that answer about
 20 moral beliefs, what do you mean by that?
 21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: If morally people can agree
 22 with the death penalty or not. They would have to look inside
 23 themselves and see whether that's something that they agree
 24 with.
 25 MR. JOHNSON: You think states that don't have

1 it are less moral or more moral than Texas?

2 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think they might feel that

3 they are on a higher moral level.

4 MR. JOHNSON: You think Texas is on a lower

5 moral level?

6 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. But I think the states

7 that don't have it think that they are on a higher level.

8 MR. JOHNSON: Well, does that kind of go to like

9 we are barbarians and they are not?

10 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

11 MR. JOHNSON: Is that?

12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I don't think so.

13 MR. JOHNSON: Now, let's go to page four on your

14 questionnaire, on that -- the question at the very top of the

15 page, and your answer is if the severity is great enough,

16 capital punishment can be called for. Tell me what you mean

17 in that answer by your use of the word severity?

18 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: By that response, I was

19 trying to get across the point that, for example, if someone

20 comes in and they are knowingly trying to murder a police

21 officer. And it is not as in self-defense or it is not as in

22 some other circumstance to where they were accidentally firing

23 at another target and hit the officer. If they knowingly shot

24 a police officer for themselves in order to get away from the

25 crime or whatever was happening. If they knowingly committed

70

1 MR. JOHNSON: Give me a circumstance of -- that

2 wouldn't be severe?

3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: If they were firing not with

4 the intent to kill, firing maybe to stop the car or something,

5 it was an accidental shot.

6 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Well, let me kind of talk

7 to you about accidental, self-defense, those are a couple of

8 terms that you mentioned in our discussion about that

9 question. If -- if you have a homicide that just means that

10 some human has died, okay. That's what the term homicide

11 means, all right. Now they are dead.

12 Now, there is different ways that they can be dead.

13 Obviously they can just die of natural causes, of course that

14 is not a crime. Other way they could die is just by accident.

15 In other words, it just be somebody who unintentionally ran

16 over them and killed them. Or somebody say, cleaning a gun

17 and the gun accidentally goes off and kills them, they are

18 dead. It is a homicide. But if that is the circumstances, it

19 is not a crime, okay. You understand that, I am sure.

20 Now, another way somebody could be killed, it could be an

21 intentional murder that was excused, okay. It was excused

22 because the person that did the killing, even though they

23 knowingly and intentionally caused that person's death, they

24 were insane at the time they did it. So it is excused because

25 they didn't know the difference between right and wrong, okay.

1 that.

2 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Now, intentional basically

3 just means that you did something to cause the result, that

4 you -- you wanted it done. That you did whatever it took to

5 cause whatever the result is, okay. Now, do you ever use the

6 concept of premeditation in regards to your answer about

7 severity?

8 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

9 MR. JOHNSON: So premeditation wouldn't factor

10 in into whether it was done intentionally or not?

11 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It would, it would factor

12 in. But it wouldn't -- if it wasn't premeditated, it could

13 still be severe enough to warrant the death penalty.

14 MR. JOHNSON: Let's talk about some of the other

15 things that you mentioned. Can you -- I am still not

16 completely clear about what you mean by severity, can you

17 maybe tell me a little bit more about what your concept of

18 that word is, the way you use it?

19 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Mainly I feel that if there

20 was intent, if the accused was trying to get away from the

21 scene and they murdered someone for their own benefit. If

22 they said that if I eliminate this police officer, I have a

23 chance of getting away, that's what I consider a severe case.

24 It is like murdering that person, I benefit myself, then I

25 would say that's pretty heinous.

71

1 Now, there is also the element of self-defense. Now, you

2 understand what self-defense is? What is self-defense to you?

3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: If you feel that at that

4 point in time your life depends upon you killing this person.

5 In other words, if that person doesn't get killed, you are

6 going to get killed, then that's what I consider self-defense.

7 MR. JOHNSON: All right. And that's exactly

8 what self-defense is. Now, you think that should apply even

9 if the person is threatening you is a police officer?

10 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: If a police officer is

11 threatening -- threatening your life, I don't think so you can

12 apply self-defense to that. Because you have to be doing

13 something to instigate that police officer.

14 MR. JOHNSON: So that wouldn't be something that

15 you would be able to consider as a homicide if it involved a

16 peace officer acting in the line of duty?

17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It could be considered, and

18 I think it would be an extreme case. But in general, I would

19 say you couldn't apply self-defense.

20 MR. JOHNSON: And it may be difficult to

21 consider that, but the law does say that you have the right to

22 defend yourself from deadly force, even if the person

23 threatening you with the deadly force is a police officer,

24 okay. You know when you gave your example of self-defense,

25 you said, well, if you, meaning yourself, if you thought that

1 the person that was threatening you might be about to cause
 2 you death or serious bodily injury that you would have a right
 3 to defend yourself, okay. Now, the key to what you said from
 4 my perspective is, is you said if you thought that, then you
 5 could use self-defense, okay. And that's exactly what the law
 6 says. The law says that when you decide whether somebody
 7 acted in self-defense or not, you look at it from the person's
 8 perspective that is acting in self-defense, okay. It is just
 9 exactly like you said. And the law also says that that can
 10 apply in the situation where the person that is threatening is
 11 a peace officer. If it appears that they are about to use
 12 excessive force to the point that they could be about to cause
 13 death or serious bodily injury to you, then you have the right
 14 to defend yourself, even if it means using deadly force, okay.
 15 What do you think about that being the law?
 16 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think that is a fair law.
 17 MR. JOHNSON: Is that something you could
 18 follow?
 19 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.
 20 MR. JOHNSON: Even though you initially thought
 21 that maybe it didn't make a lot of sense that that would ever
 22 be the law?
 23 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: And I didn't say that that
 24 would never apply, I said generally under some specific cases
 25 it could apply.

1 MR. JOHNSON: Let me tell you a little bit more
 2 about that issue of self-defense. You have heard us talk
 3 about beyond a reasonable doubt, okay. And you were asked
 4 what the definition to that is. And it is not exactly the
 5 easiest thing to try to define, is it?
 6 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 7 MR. BRAUCHLE: We used to have a definition for
 8 it, but we no longer do have a definition for it. So it is
 9 basically left up to each individual what they think that is.
 10 Let me give you something that by example may help you
 11 understand the burden of beyond a reasonable doubt.
 12 Now, we have a couple of different levels of proof in our
 13 judicial system in Texas. The first one is called
 14 preponderance of the evidence. It is the burden of proof like
 15 in a lawsuit involving money. And in that type of case, the
 16 person who is doing the suing, has to prove their case beyond
 17 the preponderance of the evidence.
 18 Have you heard that term before?
 19 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 20 MR. JOHNSON: What that means is that the
 21 person, and I am going to use my arm here as an example of a
 22 scale, the person bringing the lawsuit has to bring enough
 23 evidence to tip the scale over. They have to prove it more
 24 than 51 percent. In other words for them to be successful,
 25 they have to convince the trier of fact, the jury, that they

1 have proven their case by that are margin.
 2 You okay with that?
 3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 4 MR. JOHNSON: The next level of proof in our
 5 justice system is clear and convincing evidence. Now, you
 6 don't have any kids yet, you can understand that sometimes we
 7 have cases where somebody try to take somebody's children from
 8 them. You have heard of that?
 9 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 10 MR. JOHNSON: Well, if somebody was trying to
 11 take somebody's kids away from them, do you think that would
 12 take quite a bit of proof to show that the parents of that
 13 child shouldn't have that child?
 14 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 15 MR. JOHNSON: If someone was trying to take you
 16 away from your mother, how would your mother feel about that?
 17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Pretty strongly, very
 18 strongly.
 19 MR. JOHNSON: And if she went to court and
 20 somebody was trying to take you away from her, don't you think
 21 she would try to fight like hell?
 22 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 23 MR. JOHNSON: Wouldn't you think that she would
 24 want to be convinced to some great degree that that was the
 25 right thing to do?

1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 2 MR. JOHNSON: Clear and convincing evidence is
 3 the proof involved in child custody cases. That's the next
 4 level of proof. In other words, we go from a preponderance of
 5 the evidence of over to clear and convincing, which is greater
 6 than that, all right. And I think you will agree with me that
 7 that would be a pretty significant amount of proof to take
 8 somebody's children away?
 9 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 10 MR. JOHNSON: Now, the next level of proof is
 11 what we have in criminal cases and that's called reasonable
 12 doubt. And that proof is greater than preponderance of the
 13 evidence and greater than clear and convincing evidence. It
 14 is the greatest burden that anybody could have in any type of
 15 case in our justice system. So that's just by example of what
 16 the other levels of proof are, give you an idea of what the
 17 reasonable doubt means. Would you agree that that's pretty
 18 darn excessive burden?
 19 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 20 MR. JOHNSON: And do you think it is fair that
 21 the State would have to meet that burden?
 22 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 23 MR. BRAUCHLE: You think it is fair on the State
 24 to have to do that?
 25 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

1 MR. JOHNSON: Now, back to self-defense, all
 2 right. When the issue of self-defense is raised in the case,
 3 and the jury is trying to decide if the defendant, the person
 4 on trial, the person is claiming self-defense, if that is
 5 raised, then the State has the burden to prove beyond all
 6 reasonable doubt that they were not acting in self-defense,
 7 okay.
 8 Now, are you okay with that?
 9 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 10 MR. JOHNSON: So you understand that
 11 self-defense is a defense, even though it is a peace officer;
 12 you understand that?
 13 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 14 MR. JOHNSON: You understand if that burden is
 15 raised, then the burden is on the State to prove that that
 16 wasn't the issue. Would you hold them to that burden to prove
 17 that?
 18 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes I would.
 19 MR. JOHNSON: Why do you think that is like
 20 that?
 21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: To protect the innocent. If
 22 you are brought into court all the burden is to prove that you
 23 are guilty not to the prove that you are innocent.
 24 MR. JOHNSON: That's exactly right. And that's
 25 basically where our judicial system is set up. You know, when

1 I was at Woodrow, do they still -- when you were there, do
 2 they have a class called civics?
 3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think it is called
 4 government now.
 5 MR. JOHNSON: Government?
 6 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.
 7 MR. JOHNSON: When I was there, it was called
 8 civics and I remember we had a teacher named Mr. Smith. And
 9 we had to do a term paper. And he had people do it every
 10 year, keep it in mind, I was there in the 60s, and he gave us
 11 the title to the paper. Everybody had the same title to the
 12 paper. We had to do the research and write this paper. And
 13 the title to the paper was The Freedom of Democracy Versus the
 14 Tyranny of Communist, An Unbiased Study. That's where we were
 15 taught civics. I'm sure while you were at Woodrow, you were
 16 taught civics and you were taught basically our system is set
 17 up to protect citizens; is that right?
 18 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 19 MR. JOHNSON: When you were learning that, did
 20 you think that made sense to you. Did you think that the
 21 State shouldn't have to have such a high burden?
 22 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think it is a fair system.
 23 MR. JOHNSON: You think it is appropriate?
 24 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 25 MR. JOHNSON: Now, another thing that you say on

1 page four, is that you feel that the death penalty in Texas is
 2 used too often relative to other states. How do you feel
 3 about that fact? You obviously know you are right?
 4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't know how I feel,
 5 good or bad about it. I think it is just a fact. And I don't
 6 want to go so far to say I am indifferent, but I don't have
 7 strong feelings either way about it.
 8 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Have you always been in
 9 favor of the death penalty?
 10 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 11 MR. JOHNSON: Why?
 12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I go back to the deterrent.
 13 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.
 14 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think it is the greatest
 15 deterrent.
 16 MR. JOHNSON: All right. If it is such a great
 17 deterrent, why do we still have capital murder in Texas?
 18 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Because sometimes there
 19 may be circumstances where people feel that they have a chance
 20 to get away. That may be a great. One if they knew that for
 21 every murder they committed they were indefinitely going to be
 22 murdered themselves, then they wouldn't do it. But because
 23 the chance exists that they can get away.
 24 MR. JOHNSON: On page four again, there is a
 25 question that says: Do you think spending a lifetime in

1 prison is equivalent to the death penalty? You put, no. Do
 2 you think it would be worse to get the death penalty than
 3 having to spend the rest of your life in prison?
 4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: For myself personally?
 5 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah.
 6 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I hope I never have to be
 7 faced with either option.
 8 MR. JOHNSON: None of us want to face that
 9 option.
 10 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think the death penalty
 11 would be worse.
 12 MR. JOHNSON: Why?
 13 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, even in prison, you
 14 are still alive, you can still see family, you can still read.
 15 Death is the end all. That's the end of it. I want to be on
 16 this earth as long as I can.
 17 MR. JOHNSON: Well, you want to because you are
 18 outside, you are free. Do you think you would feel different
 19 if you were locked up and knew that you were never going to
 20 get out -- basically it is, you know, there are both of these
 21 penalties are death penalty. One is death in prison, all
 22 right. The other one is death by lethal injection. Either
 23 way you are going to die in prison. But you think the death
 24 penalty is a more severe punishment just because of the
 25 deterrent factor?

1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

2 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Now, let's go to the bottom

3 of page four, let's talk about your answer to that last

4 question. Now, you understand that if you are on the jury and

5 the State has proven its case beyond all reasonable doubt, you

6 don't feel like there are any defenses that they have not just

7 proved. That you find basically what you wrote down here in

8 your answer that it was proven beyond a reasonable doubt, that

9 the guilty party intended to kill the victim, which is what

10 you would have had to have found to have brought back a

11 verdict of guilty, that would be important to you to decide

12 between life and death; is that correct?

13 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, knowing what I have

14 heard here today, I am a little bit more knowledgeable on the

15 process. And I think the first special issue would come into

16 play. It would have to without a choice. And it would just

17 have to be deliberated upon with my fellow jurors and it would

18 be the circumstances.

19 MR. JOHNSON: Well, let's talk about those

20 circumstances, obviously at this point, when you are

21 deliberating guilt or innocence, the circumstances have been

22 proven to you that this person beyond all reasonable doubt

23 acted intentionally and intended to cause the victim to be

24 dead, okay. And that would be the most important factor for

25 you to be able to determine whether or not the person should

1 get the death penalty; is that right?

2 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, the special issue

3 really, that clears it up. Because in my answer, I didn't

4 break it up into, okay, once they are proven guilty or

5 innocent, then you move on to decide -- deciding whether you

6 assess a death penalty or life imprison. So in answering this

7 question, I looked at it as one process.

8 MR. BRAUCHLE: What is that one process?

9 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Being that you would take

10 everything into account at the same time. You have proven

11 guilty then you also determine throughout the same process do

12 they get life imprison or the death sentence.

13 MR. JOHNSON: All right. You thought that maybe

14 by at the first part of the trial once you determined

15 guilt/innocence, you would at the same time, you would make

16 the decision between -- once you found them guilty, that would

17 be all there is to it, you determined the death penalty or

18 life imprison?

19 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

20 MR. JOHNSON: And if that were the case that

21 they were guilty of the offense, that you would be inclined to

22 give death.

23 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I couldn't say that, without

24 hearing the case, any of the evidence.

25 MR. JOHNSON: This is kind of odd, the process

1 called the voir dire, the jury selection. We don't have

2 the -- under the law, we can't tell you the facts of the case,

3 we told you a little bit to see if you know about the case, so

4 if you know so much about the case that you have already make

5 a decision. We can't tell you the details. It would be real

6 easy if we could, we could tell you our side of the case and

7 they could tell you their side of the case and you could just

8 tell us the answer.

9 You understand now, especially after talking to Andrea

10 about the process is -- the beginning of it is the

11 guilt/innocence part of it, okay. And the State has met its

12 burden as far as guilt/innocence, and you found that person

13 guilty, yeah, you still are in the process of deciding in

14 between a life sentence or death sentence.

15 At that stage do you think you would be leaning one way

16 or the other before you got to these two special issues?

17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I can't answer that without,

18 without -- because that decision would be made throughout the

19 process of the trial. When I come to that stage, I would have

20 enough evidence to sway me toward one direction or another.

21 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Let's go to the next phase,

22 then. Let's go to the phase that you would be in if in fact

23 you as part of a jury came back with a guilty verdict on

24 capital murder, okay. You understand at that point that even

25 though the person on trial hadn't been sentenced, they would

1 already have a sentence; you understand that?

2 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

3 MR. JOHNSON: You know what that sentence would

4 be at that point?

5 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Death.

6 MR. JOHNSON: I am talking about at the

7 guilt/innocence phase of the trial, what would that verdict be

8 that the point?

9 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: One of two options, life

10 sentence or death penalty.

11 MR. JOHNSON: He would be already sitting on

12 life without parole, that's automatic, once the person is

13 found guilty of capital murder, they are already sentenced to

14 life imprison without parole, even though they are not

15 formally sentenced at that point. The best now they are going

16 to be able to do is life without parole; you understand that?

17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

18 MR. JOHNSON: So it wouldn't be the death

19 penalty at that point. It is not the death penalty until you

20 actually go a little further?

21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.

22 MR. JOHNSON: What has to happen next? You

23 understand what has to happen next before you decide life

24 without parole and the death penalty now that you have already

25 found him guilty of capital murder?

1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Then we come back in
 2 and the prosecution and defense present their cases, the
 3 prosecution being for death penalty. And the burden being on
 4 them to prove enough -- I don't know if there is a burden of
 5 proof in this case, it is not, but still on the prosecution to
 6 convince the jury to determine death penalty.
 7 MR. JOHNSON: Two things. One, there is never a
 8 burden on the Defense, we never have to present any evidence
 9 in any phase of the trial, okay. That's the law. Okay. Now,
 10 as to the burden of proof, all right, you said you are not
 11 sure if they have a burden of proof after that. Okay. I want
 12 you to go back and read special issue number one again?
 13 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.
 14 MR. JOHNSON: You want to rethink your answer?
 15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: The burden would be on
 16 the prosecution to convince the jury that he is a continuing
 17 threat to the society that he is in.
 18 MR. JOHNSON: And again, how do they have to
 19 prove it, what is their burden?
 20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Their burden would be
 21 proving that he is likely to commit criminal violent acts.
 22 MR. JOHNSON: What -- it even tells you right
 23 there, what their burden is, again it goes back to they have
 24 to prove it beyond a reasonable doubt, okay. Back to that
 25 standard that they have got in every phase of the trial. They

1 have got to prove it beyond all reasonable doubt, okay.
 2 Now, again back to this special issue, you know, we got
 3 not only do they have to prove, we got evidence that proves it
 4 beyond a reasonable doubt, they have got to prove it beyond
 5 reasonable doubt that there is a probability, okay.
 6 What does probability mean?
 7 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: High likelihood.
 8 MR. JOHNSON: I will tell you this, just like
 9 reasonable doubt, there is no definition to any of those
 10 terms, okay. In the first part of the trial, there will be
 11 definitions for some of the issues like everything in that
 12 indictment will be defined for you in the Court's charge. The
 13 Court's charge is kind of like some instructions more or less.
 14 It is blueprints that the jury is to use in their
 15 deliberation.
 16 If you get to the punishment phase of the trial, if the
 17 person is found guilty of capital murder, then when we get to
 18 these special issues, there are no definitions to any of the
 19 things to either one of the special issues, okay. So
 20 reasonable doubt won't be defined, probability won't be
 21 defined. Criminal acts of violence won't be defined.
 22 Society, you will be able to know at that point will be prison
 23 of society because he is already sitting on a
 24 life-without-parole sentence, once you get to that first
 25 special issue. So you will know society means prison.

1 Now, do you agree with me if you take beyond a reasonable
 2 doubt, now that you know the explanation of the different
 3 levels of prison and couple that with probability, does that
 4 increase the burden on the State? In other words reasonable
 5 doubt, then they have to prove probability too, can you see
 6 how that is an even greater burden on the State?
 7 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I can.
 8 MR. JOHNSON: You feel that way about that?
 9 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, seems like a heavy
 10 burden.
 11 MR. JOHNSON: What comes to your mind when
 12 you think about that phrase at the end, criminal acts of
 13 violence?
 14 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Death or bodily injury.
 15 MR. JOHNSON: Now, when the prosecutor was
 16 talking to you, she gave you an example where she punched the
 17 person next to her. Now, do you think that somebody should
 18 get the death penalty because you think they might get into a
 19 fist fight in prison?
 20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 21 MR. JOHNSON: That's not what you would think of
 22 when you are thinking about that criminal acts of violence at
 23 that phase of the trial, is it?
 24 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 25 MR. JOHNSON: Reality is, it wouldn't surprise

1 at all that somebody might actually get into a fight?
 2 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.
 3 MR. JOHNSON: You get on the internet, see stuff
 4 on the internet. My son was showing me some little thing on
 5 the internet, like a bunch of prisoners, I think it was
 6 Philipians doing a drill. Have you ever seen that?
 7 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 8 MR. JOHNSON: They were all there dancing next
 9 to each other, and I couldn't help but thinking that probably
 10 when they were rehearsing that, they probably stepped on each
 11 other toes and maybe some other prisoner threw a punch. I
 12 don't think that's what the legislature was thinking about
 13 when they came up with that definition. The state would have
 14 to prove to you a little more than the fact that someone threw
 15 dust up.
 16 Did you get any fist fights at Woodrow?
 17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: A couple.
 18 MR. JOHNSON: So did I.
 19 Let me continue with this on special issue number one.
 20 Again to get special issue number one, the jury has decided
 21 the defendant, the person on trial, is guilty. And now they
 22 are trying to decide special issue number one. And if they
 23 decide that the State has met its burden as proved to special
 24 issue number one, what happens then as far as what the jury
 25 does?

1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Then they go on to special
2 issue number two.

3 MR. JOHNSON: That's true. What I want to make
4 sure you understand about special issue number one, you know
5 how I told you that the jury come back with a verdict of
6 guilty, then that person has more or less got a life in prison
7 without parole. Then when you get to special issue number
8 one, that actually starts off, even though it is not there,
9 the answer to that question starts off as "no", okay.

10 Now why do you think I would say?

11 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Because the burden -- you
12 come in with -- again not at this point presumed innocent but
13 best case scenario.

14 MR. JOHNSON: And again the State has the burden
15 of proving that issue should be answered "yes". So can you
16 see how it really starts off as a "no"?

17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

18 MR. JOHNSON: If the State can't prove to you
19 what they are required to prove for that special issue. That
20 this stays a "no". And unless they bring you sufficient
21 evidence to convince you, to witout that "no" and put "yes"
22 in there, that that stays life without parole. You don't even
23 have to consider special issue number two; you understand
24 that?

25 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

90

1 future and he is going to be a continuing threat to society,
2 why at that point would you even consider not giving this
3 person the death penalty?

4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Because of mitigating
5 circumstances. Because a safety net like the prosecutor said,
6 mentioned, actually just double check, because this is a
7 decision that has huge weight and it deserves another look.

8 MR. JOHNSON: Would you be surprised some
9 people say that that is kind of a crazy idea that somebody has
10 been guilty of capital murder and now decided that there is
11 nothing that we can do to keep this person from being a
12 continuing threat, why in the world would I want to even have
13 him stay alive anyway? What do you think about that
14 statement?

15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I can see how people
16 could think maybe that is not necessary or redundant. But I
17 totally agree that it should be there. And I like the fact
18 that it is there.

19 MR. JOHNSON: Well, let's talk some more about
20 special issue number two. I laugh because it is such -- it is
21 kind of a convoluted concept. It has got a lot of -- I guess
22 legal mumble jumbo. Keep in mind none of the people in this
23 room wrote either one of those special issues, that's what we
24 got from the legislature, okay. Now, what does special issue
25 number two, and it is not even called special issue number

1 MR. JOHNSON: The other thing you need to know
2 is the way the process works as far as the trial, you are
3 going to have -- this is what is called voir dire. It is
4 supposedly French, which means to speak the truth. Then we
5 start the trial, which is the evidence. And once the jury
6 hears the first evidence, which is the guilt/innocence
7 evidence, if they come back with a verdict of guilty, then we
8 go on to the punishment phase of the trial. That's where we
9 are with these two special issues. But all the evidence that
10 comes in, in the punishment phase, comes in at the same time.
11 It is not like the State present evidence to special issue
12 number one and then the jury goes out to deliberate. And if
13 they come back with a "yes", then it is more evidence on
14 special issue number two. All the punishment phase evidence
15 is introduced at that same phase. So when you are
16 deliberating these special issues, you are going to have
17 already heard all the evidence you are going to hear in regard
18 to both of those issues.

19 If you are on this jury and you have been convinced
20 beyond all reasonable doubt, number one, the person on trial,
21 the defendant, is guilty of capital murder, and then you heard
22 the evidence on punishment, and you've decided based on all
23 that evidence the State has proven to you beyond all
24 reasonable doubt that this individual is going to be a
25 continuing threat, commit criminal acts of violence in the

91

1 two, but it is the longer of the two, so just for sake of make
2 it easier to describe which one we are talking about. We are
3 talking about the longer one on the right. Tell me what that
4 says to you in regards to what it is asking you to do?

5 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It says that if you find the
6 first one to be true, just because he may be a continuing
7 threat, give him a second chance and just talk about it again.
8 Talk about it, make sure that there is nothing that you
9 overlooked and double checking your work.

10 MR. JOHNSON: What are things you think you can
11 consider in regards to special initial number two?

12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Hard to say here. Cause it
13 would be -- you would have already been presented a bunch of
14 evidence that would have been considered. Maybe it is
15 something that jurors know and maybe forgot, and say, oh,
16 because of his upbringing, you know that this guy really --
17 give him a break.

18 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Is that something that you
19 could see yourself considering at that point, you personally
20 something like that?

21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would consider, yes.

22 MR. JOHNSON: You know I might consider going
23 and buying, you know, a Rolls Royce this afternoon, okay. But
24 I couldn't do it. Because I couldn't afford one. You know
25 what I mean by that in regard to that issue that I am talking

1 about right now?

2 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

3 MR. JOHNSON: It is not just a matter that you

4 could consider, would you be able to actually to do it?

5 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would if there is

6 sufficient reason to.

7 MR. JOHNSON: What do you think that information

8 would have to come from for you to decide?

9 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: The jurors, and someone

10 bringing up a point that someone overlooked. Or maybe --

11 really, something that would come out in the deliberations.

12 MR. JOHNSON: Well, you are actually supposed to

13 consider the evidence that has been presented to you, to

14 decide anything in the case, all right. Everything that you

15 do when you are on the jury is going to be based on the

16 evidence that has been presented to you. So it is not going

17 to come from the jurors. Although, like, I agree with you

18 that it may be something that one of the jurors picked up on

19 that the other jurors didn't?

20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's the point I was

21 getting at.

22 MR. JOHNSON: You realize that when you read the

23 special issue, it basically says that you can consider all the

24 evidence including the circumstances of the offense itself,

25 the defendant's character and background. Now, that goes to

1 individual's moral beliefs and not being able to issue a death

2 sentence.

3 MR. JOHNSON: I'm sorry, I didn't quite hear

4 you?

5 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: You are talking about an

6 individual's moral belief and how they will not allow

7 themselves to issue a death sentence.

8 MR. JOHNSON: On this particular fact, all the

9 facts have been presented to them. They just may say I have

10 heard everything and I have found this guy guilty, I have even

11 found special issue number one to be "yes", but there is just

12 something about these facts, or this case, or anything that

13 they feel about the circumstances that they could just say, my

14 personal moral position. My personal moral judgment in this

15 regard is that this case doesn't warrant the death sentence.

16 You understand that that's --

17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

18 MS. HANDLEY: Your Honor, I am going to object.

19 I believe that is a misstatement of the law. The jurors are

20 to take into consideration the evidence in the case and if

21 they find that there is sufficient mitigating circumstances,

22 that it should be a life sentence versus death sentence then

23 that's how that works, Your Honor.

24 MR. JOHNSON: I don't think I said anything

25 differently, that's exactly what I said.

1 what you were saying, maybe had something to do with his

2 upbringing, something of that regard, is that what that says

3 to you?

4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh, his character.

5 MR. JOHNSON: His personal moral culpability of

6 the defendant. What does that mean to you?

7 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Moral -- moral weaknesses.

8 MR. JOHNSON: And again, it is not going to be

9 defined, so it could mean anything that you wanted it to. And

10 whatever it is that each individual juror comes up with in

11 regard to that special issue number two, we talk about this

12 term moral, it also goes to each individual juror's moral or

13 decision as far as their principle, okay. If they have for

14 some reason, it is just their moral judgment, individually,

15 that this case does not meet what they consider to be a death

16 penalty case, then they have the right to just say, you know,

17 guys, I can't necessarily say exactly what it is, but it is my

18 moral personal opinion about this is, I am not going to sign

19 off on death on this case.

20 You understand that that's what that I shall is talking

21 about?

22 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: (Nods head).

23 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, tell me what you think about

24 what I said?

25 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: You are talking about the

1 MS. HANDLEY: It should be based on the evidence

2 in the case.

3 MR. JOHNSON: Did I say anything differently,

4 what was I talking about that you consider in the case.

5 MS. HANDLEY: I don't mean for this to be a

6 battle, Your Honor, that's my objection.

7 THE COURT: I will sustain the objection, Mr.

8 Johnson. If you will rephrase the question.

9 MR. JOHNSON: What is it that I said that you

10 are sustaining the objection.

11 MS. HANDLEY: My objection, Your Honor, was that

12 the juror's decision should be based on the evidence in the

13 case and with respect to special issue number two if there is

14 sufficient mitigating circumstances, not just I have a feeling

15 or I believe you said a personal moral feeling against the

16 death penalty, speaking specifically it needs to be based on

17 the evidence in the case and whether or not there is

18 sufficient mitigating circumstance.

19 THE COURT: And I will sustain that objection to

20 that.

21 MR. JOHNSON: Well, let me say it again because

22 that is not what I said, okay. Again, each individual juror

23 has a right to look at all the evidence and make a decision

24 about what they think the special issue means to them because

25 they are not defined; you understand that?

1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 2 MR. JOHNSON: That's what the law is, okay.
 3 Now, each individual juror, after they have looked
 4 attitude all the evidence in the case and that includes the
 5 nature of the offense, and anything else that has been
 6 presented to them as evidence during the trial or not
 7 presented for that matter, okay. They have the right under
 8 special issue number two to make an individual decision for
 9 themselves as the jury in the case, okay. That's the law,
 10 okay.
 11 Now, what that means is, is that under our law after each
 12 individual juror has considered everything, then they get to
 13 determine, number one, what that special issue means to them
 14 because it is not defined, okay. And if it is their own
 15 personal moral judgment to say in their opinion based on
 16 everything they know about the case that they think this is
 17 just not a death penalty case, they have the right to say
 18 that, each individual juror; you understand that?
 19 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I understand that.
 20 MR. JOHNSON: And that's kind of in a way, it is
 21 it almost a juror bill of rights, okay. You understand what I
 22 mean by that?
 23 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 24 MR. BRAUCHLE: Each individual juror back there
 25 deliberating has a right to have their own opinion about their

1 decision, okay. You okay with that?
 2 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 3 MR. JOHNSON: Now, you know, there are basically
 4 lots of issues in our world that people have very strong
 5 opinions about, okay. Like say abortion for instance, okay,
 6 you are aware that a lot of people have very different
 7 opinions about the issue of abortion; is that right?
 8 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, yes.
 9 MR. JOHNSON: And I am not going to ask you what
 10 your opinion is. All I am asking you, do you think that each
 11 individual should be entitled to whatever their opinion is?
 12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 13 MR. BRAUCHLE: And you think each individual
 14 juror should be entitled to whatever their opinion is?
 15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 16 MR. JOHNSON: And do you understand that if you
 17 are on this jury, your job is going to be to deliberate and
 18 consider the facts and evidence that has been presented to you
 19 while you are sitting there in that jury box; you understand
 20 that?
 21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 22 MR. JOHNSON: And your job isn't to go back
 23 there and debate with each other, your job is to go back there
 24 and deliberate amongst each other and not debate you follow
 25 me.

1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 2 MR. JOHNSON: It is not the other jurors job to
 3 try to debate with the other jurors and try to convince them
 4 what they think the evidence says or what they think you know
 5 should happen in this case, each individual juror has the
 6 right to decide that themselves; you follow me?
 7 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 8 MR. JOHNSON: Does that sound like the way it
 9 should be?
 10 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It does.
 11 MR. JOHNSON: Do you have any problems with
 12 that?
 13 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not at all.
 14 MR. JOHNSON: So let me ask you this, if you
 15 actually are on this jury and you are back there deliberating,
 16 and you made the determination one way, whichever way that is,
 17 and you have this personal moral judgment that that's the
 18 right thing to do, do you feel that you should be entitled to
 19 that?
 20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I do.
 21 MR. JOHNSON: Do you think the other jurors
 22 should be entitled to try to force you to try force you to try
 23 to change your mind about that?
 24 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: They can try, they can
 25 have that option throughout the deliberation process.

1 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. As far as deliberating,
 2 right? Would you want it try to force -- you want them to
 3 force you to change your mind about something?
 4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 5 MR. JOHNSON: Would you want to force another
 6 juror to change their mind about something?
 7 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 8 MR. JOHNSON: How would you feel about being on
 9 this jury?
 10 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would take it very
 11 seriously. And consider all the evidence presented and do my
 12 best to make a sound judgment.
 13 MR. JOHNSON: You know one of the first things
 14 you said when you came in here, you were kind of excited about
 15 this, why is that?
 16 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Because of the nature of it,
 17 the gravity, it's someone's life literally on the line. And I
 18 would have a chance to take part in that process. It is an
 19 exciting prospect.
 20 MR. JOHNSON: Do you feel like you got any
 21 leanings one way or the other about the outcome of the case?
 22 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: None.
 23 MR. JOHNSON: That is not part of your
 24 excitement about being here?
 25 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

1 MR. JOHNSON: Pass the juror.
 2 MS. HANDLEY: Nothing further, Your Honor.
 3 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Turbon, you may step
 4 down?
 5 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Thank you.
 6 (Prospective juror retired from the courtroom.)
 7 (Recess taken.)
 8 THE COURT: Ms. Handley, what says State with
 9 respect to Juror No. 70-C, Robert Turbon?
 10 MS. HANDLEY: Your Honor, Juror Robert Turbon,
 11 70-C, is acceptable to the State.
 12 THE COURT: Mr. Johnson, what says the Defense?
 13 MR. JOHNSON: We will accept Juror 70-C,
 14 Mr. Robert Turbon.
 15 THE BAILIFF: All rise for the juror.
 16 (Juror returned to the courtroom.)
 17 THE COURT: You may be seated. Mr. Turbon, let
 18 me inform you that you have been accepted as a juror in this
 19 matter. You are going to be released today and subject to
 20 recall once we commence the trial.
 21 Let me admonish you, don't do any research on the
 22 internet. Don't do any research with the Dallas Morning News,
 23 anything like that. Additionally if you happen as the trial
 24 date gets closer, if you happen to see anything on the news
 25 about this matter, change the channel if you will. We will

1 see you most likely the second week in April.
 2 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.
 3 THE COURT: Have a good one.
 4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay, thank you, Judge.
 5 THE COURT: If you change any of your contact
 6 information, be certain to let my coordinator know so she can
 7 contact you on the trial date?
 8 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay, thank you.
 9 (Prospective juror retired from the courtroom.)
 10 (Lunch recess taken.)
 11 THE BAILIFF: All rise for the juror.
 12 (Prospective juror entered the courtroom.)
 13 THE COURT: You may be seated.
 14 Good afternoon, Ms. Tehan?
 15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Hi.
 16 THE COURT: How are you today?
 17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.
 18 THE COURT: Apologize for the extended wait that
 19 you had. Sometimes these things can last a little longer than
 20 we anticipate?
 21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's understandable.
 22 THE COURT: The attorneys on both sides may have
 23 some questions to ask you regarding your qualifications as a
 24 juror. There are no right or wrong questions. They want to
 25 see how you feel about certain issues.

1 What says the State?
 2 JUNE TEHAN
 3 was called as a prospective juror, after having been
 4 previously sworn by the Court, testified under oath as
 5 follows:
 6 VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION
 7 BY MR. MCCALLUM:
 8 Good afternoon. My name is Marshall McCallum. I am an
 9 Assistant District Attorney. Along with Andrea Handley and
 10 Andy Beach, the three of us work for Dallas County. We are
 11 responsible for the jury selection in this capital murder
 12 case.
 13 To my left is Karo Johnson, he is a Dallas Defense
 14 Attorney, and also Paul Johnson Brauchle. They represent the
 15 man at the end of table, the accused, Wesley Ruiz?
 16 THE DEFENDANT: Good afternoon.
 17 MR. MCCALLUM: Do you feel like you know any of
 18 us?
 19 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 20 MR. MCCALLUM: And you have had ample time to
 21 go back and filled out about two weeks ago.
 22 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 23 MR. MCCALLUM: That was the last thing you
 24 probably thought you were going to have to do in filling out
 25 the 18-page questionnaire. Anything about your answers you

1 would change after having about two or three hours to look at
 2 it. Anything you would change about your questionnaire if at
 3 all?
 4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: There was one thing, I think
 5 I was tired at the end. And I answered -- what was it
 6 something -- I have never been on a jury before. And I
 7 answered as if I had been on the jury before, a couple of
 8 questions, I can't remember the page number on there. But
 9 that was the only thing. I think I answered as if I would
 10 have been on a jury. It said -- let me see if I can see that,
 11 that's the only thing that I saw, that I probably -- I think
 12 in being tired or fatigued, I probably answered that
 13 incorrectly.
 14 MR. MCCALLUM: Okay. Let me -- we have been
 15 going at this process for seven weeks and we have ten people
 16 selected so far. We need obviously two more. And we have
 17 looked at a lot of questionnaires; and as you can imagine, we
 18 are only bringing down certain people that we feel like could
 19 be fair, people whose views are kind of down the middle on the
 20 death penalty in capital murder. And that's why you are down
 21 here today. There is something that I want to jump to real
 22 quickly. And I noticed that you have people in your family,
 23 you said specifically your sister used to be a police officer?
 24 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 25 MR. MCCALLUM: And your brother-in-law is

1 currently a Highland Park Police Officer; is that correct?
 2 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 3 MR. MCCALLUM: I can't get into the facts of
 4 this case, I don't know -- did you hear anything about this
 5 case on the news?
 6 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I really when they brought
 7 it up a couple of weeks ago, I don't recall this particular
 8 incident. I do read the newspaper not everyday, but I do keep
 9 up with the news, but I don't recall particularly this case.
 10 MR. MCCALLUM: Okay. Here is my question to
 11 you, I mean, concerning your sister who used to be a police
 12 officer and brother-in-law, he is currently a police officer.
 13 In this case we have alleged that the Dallas Police Officer
 14 was killed in the line of duty. Anything about that that is
 15 going to sway you one way or the other? I mean, can you
 16 basically sit there as you sit right now, tell the Defense
 17 that you can keep an open mind, you know, even knowing it was
 18 a police officer, you could give him a fair trial?
 19 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I believe I could.
 20 MR. MCCALLUM: Okay. All right. Let me --
 21 another thing I wanted to touch on. Looks like we are going
 22 to start this trial probably middle of April and it is going
 23 to go for probably five to eight working days. And there is a
 24 possibility -- we work from 9:00 to 5:00 pretty much everyday,
 25 there could be an exception if there -- there is the

1 possibility that during deliberations that the jury could be
 2 sequestered for one, possibly two nights. And is there
 3 anything about that -- I mean, would you be able to give your
 4 full attention to this trial or do you believe that there is
 5 going to be other outside matters, family life, work life that
 6 would keep you from being able to, you know, give your full
 7 attention to this trial?
 8 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't believe so. Of
 9 course we have a couple of obligations. Work wise I work 8:30
 10 to 5:00, Monday through Friday anyways, I think we can get
 11 somebody to sub in that time period.
 12 MR. MCCALLUM: With a kind of work do you do?
 13 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I am a nurse in the health
 14 center at SMU.
 15 MR. MCCALLUM: So you believe you could give
 16 your full attention to the deliberations of this trial?
 17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: (Nods head). I have no
 18 children at home, everybody is older.
 19 MR. MCCALLUM: Yeah, I saw that, they look like
 20 they are all off to college.
 21 Let's talk a little bit about murder and capital murder
 22 here in Texas. You circled two on the first page of the
 23 questionnaire, you basically indicated in certain murder cases
 24 you felt the death penalty was appropriate. And if you felt
 25 compelled that that was the right verdict that you could

1 return a death sentence. Let me talk a little bit about that.
 2 In Texas, you can't get the death penalty for every type of
 3 murder. Let me use an example. If I pulled out a gun and I
 4 put it to Ms. Handley's head and I blow her brains out right
 5 here in the middle of the courtroom and I danced around her
 6 body, would you agree with me that that is a horrific murder?
 7 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, that is horrible.
 8 MR. MCCALLUM: Okay. That is not a case in the
 9 State of Texas where I could get the death penalty. I could
 10 get a life sentence, life imprisonment, but she is not one of
 11 the protected classes of individuals that the law provides you
 12 can get the death penalty. The type cases where you can get
 13 the death penalty obviously, the murder of a police officer
 14 while that police officer is in the line of duty as we have
 15 alleged here. If you kill a child under the age of six,
 16 elderly person over the age of 65, if you kill more than one
 17 person in the same criminal transaction, that's also the death
 18 penalty worthy case. Probably the most common example that we
 19 have is person goes in a convenience store, holds up the
 20 convenience store and kills the clerk while in the commission
 21 of a robbery. That's a capital murder case and they can also
 22 in this case be given the death penalty.
 23 Let's just assume that you are governor for a day. How
 24 does that sit with you? Does that pretty much square with
 25 your beliefs or do you think you would expand the death

1 penalty if you could be governor for a day and write the laws?
 2 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't know if I would
 3 expand it, I think -- that's the law right now at this point.
 4 If you are governor, you go by what the law is.
 5 MR. MCCALLUM: Okay. And as a juror and a
 6 citizen, you could follow those laws the way they are set out?
 7 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 8 MR. MCCALLUM: Okay. Why do you think we need a
 9 death penalty?
 10 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I wish we didn't need a
 11 death penalty. But I think it is to keep society in check to
 12 a certain point. It is not so much an eye-for-an-eye or
 13 tooth-for-a-tooth kind of thing, I think that would be too
 14 chaotic. I think it is almost a necessity with our society
 15 these days. If somebody does some of these acts that have
 16 already been passed by law, then they are accountable under
 17 these laws to be punished in such a way.
 18 MR. MCCALLUM: Okay. Do you feel like it is
 19 necessary as a deterrent?
 20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Somewhat.
 21 MR. MCCALLUM: Okay.
 22 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, yes. I would think it
 23 would be a great deal as a deterrent. I don't know -- I don't
 24 know if it actually helps that much as a deterrent. But I
 25 think it does help somewhat.

1 MR. MCCALLUM: To some degree you believe it
2 does work as a deterrent. Okay. In your adult life, have you
3 ever felt differently about the death penalty than you do now?

4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think when I was growing
5 up probably bouncing it back and forth. I am not sure I
6 really thought about it that much until the last 20 or 30
7 years. I mean as a younger adult, I am not sure I really
8 thought about it that much.

9 MR. MCCALLUM: Was there an event or something
10 that happened in your life that caused you to ...

11 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not really. I think a lot
12 of it just the amount of violence that you see everyday that
13 it is probably a necessary evil that we kind of have to do.

14 MR. MCCALLUM: Well, we put our cards out on the
15 table. We want you to know that we are very serious about
16 this death-penalty business. I mean it is our goal in this
17 case to obtain a death penalty against the man seated at the
18 end of the table down there, not a life sentence but a death
19 sentence. We try to impress upon every juror that's our goal.
20 Because we don't want any surprises come April -- second week
21 of April that the State really was serious about this
22 death-penalty business. I mean this is our only chance to
23 talk to you is today. And you will know today whether or not
24 you have been selected to sit on this jury. So we need to
25 know your thoughts and your ideas about what is going on here,

1 if you feel like you are the type person that can participate
2 in a process that could lead to that man, that living,
3 breathing human being, not a fictional character, that that
4 man at the end of the table laying dead on a gurney.

5 Let me kind of go through the process with you, if a --
6 first, our goal is to seek a conviction of capital murder in
7 this case. We believe we have the quality and the type of
8 evidence that we are going to be able to do that. And
9 secondly, we believe that in the punishment phase that the
10 jury is going to return a death sentence as opposed to a life
11 sentence in this case. That's our goal in this case. We
12 believe that we have that type of evidence.

13 Now, that and a dollar fifty can get you a cup of coffee
14 downstairs. The Defense obviously has a hundred eighty degree
15 difference about what is going to happen in this case. But
16 that's our goal. And what does that mean?

17 Well, if you and the 11 other jurors in this case return
18 a verdict of death in this case, Judge White up there his
19 hands will basically be tied. He will have to assess -- he
20 will have to set an execution date. And it will be at some
21 point in the future. And I don't know if you ever heard of
22 Livingston, Texas, but that's the death row facility. And
23 Mr. Ruiz would be taken down to that facility. And the day
24 before his execution, there will be people that come and take
25 him from the Livingston unit, the death-row facility, and they

1 will take him down to downtown Huntsville. I don't know if
2 you ever been to Huntsville, but it is on the way to Houston
3 off I-45, but there is a unit there and it is called the Walls
4 Unit, and that's where the executions take place. And he will
5 be in the Walls Unit and he will be given a chance to talk to
6 family members, spiritual adviser. He will be given a last
7 meal.

8 But at 6:00 p.m. on the day of his execution, there is
9 going to be people that come down, guards are going to come
10 into his cell and they are going to take him voluntarily or
11 involuntarily, doesn't matter, but they are going to take him
12 down to the death chamber at 6:00 p.m. that night. There is a
13 hospital bed there, a gurney, in the death chamber. And they
14 are going to strap him to that gurney. When they do that they
15 are going to strap three lines to his arm. At that point two
16 curtains will be pulled back. And behind those curtains is
17 Plexiglas. And on one side there can be five members from the
18 defendant's family. And on the other side there can be five
19 members from the victim's family. And he would be given the
20 chance to make a final statement. He doesn't have to, but at
21 some point the warden is going to give the go-ahead to the
22 executioner. And at that point, a series of three drugs will
23 be introduced into his system. The first one is going to
24 knock him out. The second one is going to collapse his lungs.
25 And the third one is going to stop his heart. And three, six,

1 nine minutes later, however long it takes for him to die,
2 there will be a doctor in there that will pronounce him dead.

3 And I don't do that to try to be morbid. We just do that
4 to impress upon you how serious this process is. It doesn't
5 get any higher in the legal system. I mean, this is as high
6 as it gets. And my question to you, Ms. Tehan, are you the
7 type person who was convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that
8 death was the appropriate case -- was the appropriate
9 punishment, you could come back and take pen in hand and write
10 death in essence. And someday in the future that man at the
11 end of the table would be laying dead on a gurney?

12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It would be a tough
13 decision.

14 MR. MCCALLUM: Yeah. Could you -- could you
15 take part in that?

16 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have always said I believe
17 in the death penalty, but when it is you making that choice --
18 I mean, I would give it serious thought, but I really believe
19 I could. It's something I wouldn't take lightly.

20 MR. MCCALLUM: I think we have an agreement.

21 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Tehan. You are
22 excused and free to go. Thank you.

23 (Prospective juror retired from the courtroom.)

24 (Recess taken.)

25 THE BAILIFF: All rise for the juror.

1 (Prospective juror entered the courtroom.)
 2 THE COURT: You may be seated.
 3 Ms. Santoscoy, how are you?
 4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Good, thank you.
 5 THE COURT: The attorneys have some questions to
 6 ask you concerning your qualifications as a juror. There
 7 aren't any right or wrong answers, they just want to see how
 8 you feel about certain issues.
 9 What says the State?
 10 MR. BEACH: May it please the Court?
 11 **CYNTHIA SANTOSCOY**
 12 was called as a prospective juror, after having been
 13 previously sworn by the Court, testified under oath as
 14 follows:
 15 **VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION**
 16 **BY MR. BEACH:**
 17 Good afternoon Ms. Santoscoy. How are you doing?
 18 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Good, thank you.
 19 MR. BEACH: You are not either. You have been
 20 running around here trying to fine the courthouse.
 21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Did y'all hear me earlier
 22 when I was complaining about that.
 23 MR. BEACH: You have a time issue with the kids?
 24 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I do.
 25 MR. BEACH: Tell me about that.

1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: At four o'clock I have to
 2 meet my kids in the bus stop because it is raining and they
 3 can't walk in the rain in the cold.
 4 MR. BEACH: Anybody told you about Abraham
 5 Lincoln, walking through the snow?
 6 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. And swim practice and
 7 homework and everything else.
 8 MR. BEACH: And how long does it take you to get
 9 from here to the bus stop probably?
 10 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would guess, at this time
 11 of the day, it would probably take me about 20 to 25 minutes.
 12 MR. BEACH: Okay. From looking at your
 13 questionnaire, obviously, you are very, you know, involved in
 14 their lives and your community. The last -- on page 17 it
 15 asks how would you feel about being chosen on this case, and
 16 you said, I would hope that my family could be well taken care
 17 of while I am away.
 18 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 19 MR. BEACH: Is this going to be an issue in your
 20 mind if you are asked to be on this jury, is it going to weigh
 21 heavily on your mind about your kids and just your
 22 responsibility in terms of, you know, how it is going to
 23 impact your family?
 24 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, it would be something
 25 that I feel like I could probably manage pretty well for a

1 couple of days, but if it went on for weeks, that would be a
 2 problem.
 3 MR. BEACH: Right now this trial, we can't
 4 crystal ball exactly how long it is going to take but our best
 5 guess is anywhere from five to eight working days maybe up to
 6 two weeks. Now, if it was a two-week trial is that something
 7 you think you could manage, or is it going to be tough?
 8 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It would be tough. My
 9 husband works long hours and volunteers a lot in the
 10 community. So I am kind of the one that runs the show at home
 11 with the kids.
 12 MR. BEACH: Because of that, Ms. Santoscoy, I
 13 think the lawyers have agreed that we are going to let you go
 14 and take care of your family.
 15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay, thank you.
 16 THE COURT: You are free to go, ma'am, thank
 17 you.
 18 THE BAILIFF: All rise.
 19 (Prospective juror retired from the courtroom.)
 20 (Pause in the proceedings.)
 21 THE BAILIFF: All rise.
 22 (Prospective juror entered the courtroom.)
 23 THE COURT: You may be seated. Good afternoon,
 24 Mr. Gibbs. How are you doing today?
 25 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just fine. How about you?

1 THE COURT: I am doing well, thank you.
 2 The attorneys have a few questions to ask you concerning
 3 issues that may be prevalent in this case. There aren't any
 4 right or wrong responses. They just want to see how you feel
 5 about certain things.
 6 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.
 7 THE COURT: And says the State.
 8 MR. MCCALLUM: May it please the Court.
 9 **FLOYD GIBBS**
 10 was called as a prospective juror, after having been
 11 previously sworn by the Court, testified under oath as
 12 follows:
 13 **VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION**
 14 **BY MR. MCCALLUM:**
 15 Good afternoon, Mr. Gibbs, how is the weather?
 16 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: A little wet.
 17 MR. MCCALLUM: My name is Marshall McCallum. I
 18 am an Assistant District Attorney. And I work alongside
 19 Andrea Handley, who is an Assistant District Attorney. There
 20 is another gentleman by the name of Andy Beach. We are all
 21 Assistant District Attorneys and we are all responsible for
 22 picking the jury in this capital murder case. To my left, the
 23 first gentleman is Karo Johnson, Paul Brauchle. They are both
 24 Dallas Defense Attorneys. They represent the man at the end
 25 of the table. That's Wesley Ruiz.

1 THE DEFENDANT: Good afternoon.
 2 MR. MCCALLUM: Mr. Gibbs, you probably saw us a
 3 couple of weeks ago when you came in to fill out the 18-page
 4 questionnaire. You don't recognize or know any of us do you?
 5 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 6 MR. MCCALLUM: Let me just talk a little bit
 7 about the perimeter of this case, we have been going at it
 8 about seven weeks, we have ten jurors, we obviously need two
 9 more. And the reason why we called you down, is because we
 10 have read through, we have literally read through hundreds and
 11 hundreds of questionnaires. And we are bringing down the
 12 people that, you know, that are kind of in the middle. That
 13 believe that they could return the death penalty in
 14 appropriate circumstances. We are not calling down the people
 15 that say they could never give death or the people that
 16 believe death is appropriate in all cases, we are only calling
 17 down certain individuals that fall within those guidelines.
 18 Let me just kind of tell you about the trial.
 19 We anticipate starting trial in April, in mid-April. The
 20 trial will probably last five to eight working days. We will
 21 go from about 9:00 in the morning to 4:30, five o'clock in the
 22 afternoon. Is there anything about that -- well, let me also
 23 throw in there is a possibility that the jury could be
 24 sequestered for about one, one or two days. It would just be
 25 during deliberations and you wouldn't have any contact really

1 with the outside world.
 2 Is there anything about that, your job or your family
 3 life where you wouldn't be able to devote your full attention
 4 to the full trial?
 5 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: We have three small girls at
 6 home.
 7 MR. MCCALLUM: What is the situation.
 8 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My wife works also. And she
 9 is a E.R. nurse. And the shifts that she works requires one
 10 or both of us to be there. When she is not there, myself or
 11 my mother has to fill in, so maybe we would have to make
 12 arrangement for my mother to be around or something.
 13 MR. MCCALLUM: That probably wouldn't be hard,
 14 you think you could make that arrangement?
 15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.
 16 MR. MCCALLUM: You could devote your full
 17 attention?
 18 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think we have a vacation
 19 in there sometime.
 20 MR. MCCALLUM: Is that sometime in April?
 21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Probably mid-May.
 22 MR. MCCALLUM: I anticipate we are going to be
 23 done well before then. Have you -- do you know anything about
 24 this case?
 25 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

1 MR. MCCALLUM: Just what you read from the
 2 questionnaire?
 3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 4 MR. MCCALLUM: All right. Let me talk a little
 5 bit about murder in the State of Texas. There is only
 6 specific instance where the death penalty of capital murder
 7 applies. If I pulled out a gun and I stuck it to
 8 Ms. Handley's head and I blew her brains out right here in the
 9 middle of the Court and I danced around her body, you would
 10 agree with me that is a horrible and horrific murder?
 11 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 12 MR. MCCALLUM: Well, that is not the type case
 13 that the death penalty can be applied to. She is not one of
 14 the protected individuals that -- that, you know where I could
 15 receive the death penalty. I could get life imprisonment, but
 16 I couldn't receive the death penalty. When we are talking
 17 death penalty, we are talking police officer that is killed in
 18 the line of duty. Children under the age of six that are
 19 murdered, that's potential death penalty. If I go out and
 20 hire a hit man, myself and the hit man both can be tried for
 21 the death penalty. Probably the most common type case that we
 22 see down here that is capital murder is someone going into
 23 like the 7-Eleven and they go in there and rob the store and
 24 they kill the clerk. That is the most common type of capital
 25 murder scenario that we have down here.

1 Let's pretend that you were governor for a day. You know
 2 knowing what I just told you about our scheme there is select
 3 few instances where you could receive the death penalty, you
 4 think you could expand that or keep it about like it is?
 5 Pretty loaded question?
 6 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, pretty loaded
 7 question. Smarter men than me have played with that question
 8 for years, I don't know, probably if I had to make a decision
 9 right now, probably keep it about like it is.
 10 MR. MCCALLUM: Okay. Why do you think we have a
 11 death penalty?
 12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: In an attempt to protect our
 13 society.
 14 MR. MCCALLUM: Okay. Do you think it can be a
 15 deterrent?
 16 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think it can be, I am not
 17 sure that it is.
 18 MR. MCCALLUM: Okay. You don't necessarily
 19 think that we are any safer than any state that doesn't have
 20 the death penalty?
 21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Probably not.
 22 MR. MCCALLUM: All right. In your adult life,
 23 have you ever felt differently about the death penalty?
 24 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. There have been
 25 instances when snap judgment on some kind of a thing on the

1 news or something would probably cause me to lean the other
2 way, but over all, no.

3 MR. MCCALLUM: Okay. All right. Well, this is
4 our only chance to talk to you today. You are going to know
5 before you leave here today whether or not you are selected to
6 be on this jury. You know we want to get as much out of you
7 in terms of thoughts and ideas in relating to our criminal
8 justice system and the death penalty and capital murder.

9 Let me jump around a little bit, Mr. Gibbs, you have your
10 questionnaire in front of you?

11 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.

12 MR. MCCALLUM: Why don't we jump over to page
13 five. You see where you put criminal justice system, please
14 explain why you believe it is happening, talking about the
15 increase or decrease of crime. And you put plain and simple
16 moral decay, can you flush that out?

17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think that even compared
18 to when I grew up that parents and teachers, you know the
19 whole, scenario, I guess, don't -- don't have the same grasp
20 on raising the children now that they did then. Okay. Even
21 my children, you know, are more spoiled than when I grew up.
22 And the daughters -- my own second generation, we like to call
23 them, the young daughters that we just adopted, I can see
24 already that they are going to be more spoiled than my
25 biological children that I have already raised and gone.

1 filling out these 18-page questionnaires. And we are bringing
2 down people individually. Just so people won't be scary. A
3 lot of times people get in front of a hundred people and they
4 are afraid to say what is on their mind, that's why we are
5 bringing everybody down individually and talking to them. And
6 it has already taken seven weeks. We want to let you know
7 from the get-go, it is our goal in this case, the State of
8 Texas, it is our goal that that man someday in the future is
9 going to be laying dead on a gurney down in Huntsville, Texas.
10 We say that because we believe we have the type of evidence
11 and quality of evidence that first is going to convince 12
12 jurors that he is guilty beyond a reasonable doubt of capital
13 murder. And, secondly, that there is only two punishment
14 options at that point, life imprisonment and the death
15 penalty. And we believe that we are going to convince those
16 same 12 people that the death penalty is the best punishment
17 as opposed to a life imprisonment possibility. Now, that and
18 a dollar fifty can get you a cup of coffee downstairs.
19 Obviously the people next door -- next to us, they have a
20 completely different idea of what is going to happen in this
21 case.

22 The reason that we tell you that is that we want everyone
23 to know that comes down here in April, you know that we were
24 dead serious about what we were doing in this case. About the
25 death penalty. And what does that mean? Well, that means

1 That's good and bad, I guess. We are making sure they have
2 more, but how good is that. In my mind -- in a lot of ways it
3 is not doing the child any good. So I don't know, I may not
4 be making any sense here.

5 MR. MCCALLUM: No, you are. You believe that
6 the way kids are raised nowadays and the way they are brought
7 up in school maybe, the point isn't being made at an early age
8 like it was maybe in the past?

9 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.

10 MR. MCCALLUM: How many children do you have?

11 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Five.

12 MR. MCCALLUM: You have five and you just
13 adopted two girls?

14 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I just adopted three girls.

15 MR. MCCALLUM: Great. I mean -- I don't know --
16 have you ever been down on jury duty before?

17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

18 MR. MCCALLUM: We are doing this. We are being
19 extremely careful because of the stakes here?

20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.

21 MR. MCCALLUM: That man at the end of the table,
22 there is a possibility that he could be laying dead on a
23 gurney?

24 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.

25 MR. MCCALLUM: So that's why everybody is

1 that if the jury first is convinced that he is guilty beyond a
2 reasonable doubt of capital murder and they find that the
3 death penalty as opposed to life imprisonment is the
4 appropriate punishment, that means that Judge White up there
5 will have no other alternative but to set an execution date.
6 And he will do that. He will set a date somewhere off in the
7 future. And the defendant will be taken down to Livingston,
8 Texas. And Livingston is where the death-row facility is.
9 And I don't know if you ever heard of it. It is down in
10 Livingston. I think it used to be someplace else. And he
11 will be kept there. And the day before his execution, there
12 will be guards that go up to that unit and they get him and
13 they are going to take him down to Huntsville. And they are
14 going to take him to a unit called the Walls. And it is an
15 old unit there in Huntsville, and that's where executions
16 carried out.

17 And he will be in a holding cell. And he will be given a
18 chance to talk to a spiritual adviser. He can talk to his
19 family members. He can ask for the last meal, but at some
20 point -- well, it is going to be 6:00 p.m. on the day of the
21 execution, those guards are going to take him from his holding
22 cell and they are going to take him down to the death chamber
23 and they are going to strap him down to a gurney. And they
24 are going to attach three lines to his arm.

25 And at that point, he will be given a chance to make a

1 last statement. And there will be Plexiglas around the
2 gurney. And there can be five members from his family and
3 five members from the victim's family. He will be given a
4 chance to make a last statement, he doesn't have to.

5 At some point the warden is going to give the go-ahead to
6 the executioner. The first one will knock him out, sedate
7 him. The second one is going to collapse his lungs. And the
8 third is going to stop his heart. And at some point, three,
9 five, seven minutes later, he is going to be pronounced dead
10 on that gurney. And we just need to know, sir, are you the
11 type person that could take part in a process that might very
12 well lead someday to this man laying dead -- at the end of the
13 table laying dead on a gurney?

14 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't know.

15 MR. MCCALLUM: Okay. That's a stuff one?

16 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: You got me breaking out
17 in a cold sweat up here.

18 MR. MCCALLUM: There is no right or wrong
19 answer?

20 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I know. I don't know.

21 MR. MCCALLUM: What are your hesitations, talk
22 me through that?

23 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Even answering each
24 question, I decided you know that I was more middle of the
25 road. I think that's what you said, than I thought I would be

1 concerning a case like this. Because like I said, previously
2 I have made some pretty snap judgments about cases that have
3 been in the news. You know, they ought to take them out back
4 and shoot them right now, that kind of stuff.

5 MR. MCCALLUM: Yeah.

6 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Getting backed into the
7 corner to make that decision, you know.

8 MR. MCCALLUM: I mean it is an awesome
9 responsibility.

10 I think we have an agreement, Judge.

11 THE COURT: Mr. Gibbs you are free to go, thank
12 you for coming down. If you will leave your questionnaire
13 right there.

14 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay, thank you.
15 (Prospective juror retired from the courtroom.)
16 (Pause in the proceedings.)

17 THE BAILIFF: All rise for the juror.

18 (Prospective juror entered the courtroom.)

19 THE COURT: You may be seated.

20 Mr. McGinnis, how are you today?

21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Very well, thank you.

22 THE COURT: The attorneys have some questions to
23 ask you concerning your qualifications as a juror in this
24 case, there aren't any right or wrong responses, they are
25 merely trying to see how you feel about certain issues that

126

1 are pertinent in this case.

2 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Thank you.

3 THE COURT: What says the State?

4 MS. HANDLEY: May it please the Court?

5 LLOYD MCGINNIS

6 was called as a prospective juror, after having been
7 previously sworn by the Court, testified under oath as
8 follows:

9 VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION

10 BY MS. HANDLEY:

11 Is it getting cold out there?

12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, cold and windy.

13 MS. HANDLEY: I suppose we are not going to go
14 home and do some garden, I saw that was your hobby?

15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I did that yesterday.

16 MS. HANDLEY: Mr. McGinnis, we brought down
17 panels of people, brought them into the courtroom, we had you
18 fill out these 18-page questionnaire, had an opportunity to
19 let the Judge talk to you just a little bit. Since that time
20 we have gone through and read every one of those
21 questionnaires, we have only pulled out a select number of
22 questionnaires of people to bring down and talk to
23 individually now on one-on-one, try to feel you out a little
24 bit more about the death penalty as a whole, maybe talk to you
25 a little bit more about the process and what we are doing

127

1 today is to see whether or not you are a qualified juror for
2 this particular case?

3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.

4 MS. HANDLEY: Suffice to say, my name is Andrea
5 Handley. I am working with Andy Beach and Marshall McCallum.
6 We are all Assistant District Attorneys here for Dallas, we
7 are in charge of selecting the jury for this particular case.

8 To my left is Mr. Karo Johnson and Paul Brauchle. They
9 are defense attorneys here in Dallas and they represent the
10 defendant in this case. And that's the individual seated at
11 the end of the table --

12 THE DEFENDANT: Good afternoon.

13 MS. HANDLEY: -- Wesley Ruiz. What we want to
14 do, Mr. McGinnis, is have an opportunity to talk to you a
15 little bit more to see if you are a qualified juror for this
16 particular case. It is not everybody's real cup of tea when
17 it comes down to it. It is one thing to fill out a
18 questionnaire. It is one thing to talk about the death
19 penalty academically or maybe around a cup of coffee or
20 something, it is an entirely different thing to be a part of
21 it. And mostly for respect for you and respect for us, you
22 know, we just all want to be honest about it and see if you
23 are the right person?

24 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

25 MS. HANDLEY: The last thing we need is somebody

1 feeling like they need to be compelled to be on the jury
 2 telling us they think we want to hear. That is not it.
 3 Suffice to say what we feel at this side of the table with
 4 respect to this case and what they feel on that side of the
 5 table are probably worlds apart. We have totally different
 6 prospective. That and 25 cents will get you a cup of coffee.
 7 What matters is what Mr. McGinnis thinks, okay?
 8 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.
 9 MS. HANDLEY: You have had an opportunity to
 10 read your questionnaire again, if I were to give this to you
 11 again today, ask you to fill it out, would you change
 12 anything, add anything, take anything out?
 13 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I wouldn't.
 14 MS. HANDLEY: The reason we brought you down is
 15 because for the most part it would appear to us that your
 16 answers are somewhat neutral at this point. If you had said
 17 for example I will always give the death penalty in any murder
 18 case, you wouldn't be qualified to sit on this murder case.
 19 You said I would never do it under any circumstances, you
 20 wouldn't be qualified either. As I just said, it is one thing
 21 to fill out a questionnaire and entirely a different thing to
 22 be involved. I always like to use the analogy the window
 23 washers on the 80-story high buildings. Have you ever see
 24 those?
 25 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

1 MS. HANDLEY: If you ask me how I feel about
 2 clean windows on a high-rise building, I will tell you I am a
 3 hundred percent for it. If you were to put the squeegee in my
 4 hand and tell me to get on the thing and ride it up, I would
 5 tell you that I couldn't do it. If I was forced to do it, I
 6 might be able to suck it up and do it; but my heart wouldn't
 7 be in it and it wouldn't be fair to the people that are asking
 8 me to do it. That's where we are going today.
 9 Preliminary matters, you are a C.P.A. for Scottish Rite
 10 Hospital?
 11 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.
 12 MS. HANDLEY: We anticipate once we have this
 13 jury selected, we have been doing this for several weeks now,
 14 probably going to take a little bit longer, this case will
 15 probably start around mid-April, maybe the second week of
 16 April. It can take anywhere from five to eight working days,
 17 we usually work 9:00 to 5:00 a regular working day, we don't
 18 work on the weekend, on normal working days you go home at
 19 night. What I can't anticipate is how long it would take a
 20 jury to deliberate. It could take anyway from a day to two
 21 days. One other possibility you might quite possibly be
 22 sequestered, which means you and other jurors go to a hotel
 23 room, you stay the night, no phones, no family, to keep you
 24 away from outside influences that could be one to two nights.
 25 You are an accountant and I know this is mid-April, I don't

130

1 know if you being an accountant for a hospital still give you
 2 that mid-April tax time crunch. With that schedule in mind,
 3 does that square with what you are doing? Can you
 4 participate?
 5 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, we don't have a tax
 6 season.
 7 MS. HANDLEY: I didn't think you did. Anything
 8 about that schedule that would keep you from giving your full
 9 attention to this case 100 percent?
 10 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 11 MS. HANDLEY: Okay. Okay. Let's talk a little
 12 bit then about criminal cases and the death penalty in
 13 particular. You have put down here on your questionnaire,
 14 sir, that you think it is appropriate for certain crimes?
 15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.
 16 MS. HANDLEY: You have also put that the
 17 punishment for extreme cases. And when asked what you
 18 thought -- what crimes should it be available for, you have
 19 said murder. And I will tell you that you are pretty much on
 20 the right track right there. In Texas, the death penalty is
 21 not an available option necessarily for all murders, just
 22 certain murders and certain categories of murder.
 23 For example murder of a peace officer in the line of
 24 duty?
 25 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

131

1 MS. HANDLEY: That is an option that may be
 2 available to a jury as a death penalty. Murder of a child of
 3 six years of age or younger, murder of an individual of 65
 4 years or older, that is a available option. Murder of more
 5 than one person in the same criminal episode. A serial
 6 killer, such as that.

7 Classic example is the individual who go into the
 8 convenience store with the intent to robbing the store and
 9 kills the clerk while in the course of committing that
 10 robbery, that's a death penalty type case. Any type of murder
 11 during a serious felony offense. If I am sitting here and I
 12 have my co-counsel next to me and I pull a gun out of my
 13 briefcase and for no reason, he is minding his business, I
 14 blew his brains out right here. Stood up, laughed about it,
 15 and kicked his body a couple of time, I think you would agree
 16 that is a pretty horrible murder?

17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, it is.

18 MS. HANDLEY: It is not a murder that a death
 19 penalty would be an option for a jury. The most I can get
 20 would be a life imprisonment sentence. Not available for all
 21 murders.

22 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay.

23 MS. HANDLEY: If you were governor for a day, do
 24 you think you would expand the death penalty to include any
 25 other types of murder?

1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I don't.
 2 MS. HANDLEY: You would leave it just as it is
 3 right now?
 4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 5 MS. HANDLEY: And does that square with your --
 6 do you agree with how the death penalty applies, it does not
 7 necessarily apply to all murder cases, you are okay with that?
 8 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Definitely, yes.
 9 MS. HANDLEY: We are talking about capital
 10 murder today. And there is a difference between, you know,
 11 what we call a capital murder, that murder plus, versus just a
 12 regular murder. Back to me talking about what we are doing
 13 today and the gravity of the situation, again your feeling on
 14 the death penalty, have you always felt this way about the
 15 death penalty, have you ever had any different feelings?
 16 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I have always felt this
 17 way.
 18 MS. HANDLEY: Was there anything in particular
 19 that made you feel that way, any kind of circumstance,
 20 anything you could put your finger on?
 21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. I just think a person
 22 need to take responsibility for their actions.
 23 MS. HANDLEY: Okay. Why do you think we have
 24 the death penalty, what is the necessity for it?
 25 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I guess I view it as a

1 deterrent. Also as a punishment for doing something wrong.
 2 MS. HANDLEY: Okay. Sure, sure. And you will
 3 know today, Mr. McGinnis, whether or not you are going to be a
 4 juror on this case. Just so that there is no -- no
 5 misunderstanding, I will tell you on behalf of the
 6 representatives of the State of Texas and the other attorneys
 7 involved in case, we have one objective in this case and one
 8 objective. It is our ultimate goal to eventually see that man
 9 seated down there strapped to a gurney and being executed by
 10 lethal injection. I tell you that so there are no surprises
 11 so you don't go home and say, gee, maybe they will change
 12 their mind and I won't have a responsibility of being a part
 13 of this. I tell you that because I believe we have the type
 14 and quality of evidence that will convince 12 people that he
 15 is guilty of capital murder. And I believe we have the type
 16 and quality of evidence that will convince 12 people that
 17 death is the appropriate sentence for this case. And let me
 18 tell you what that means, assuming that a jury does agree with
 19 us, finds him guilty, sentence him to death versus life
 20 imprisonment, what happens at that point is that the Judge in this
 21 case, Judge Ernest White, he has no choice in the matter, he
 22 doesn't get to come back and say I think you saw it wrong, I
 23 am going to do something differently. His hands are tied,
 24 what is done is done at that point and he basically signs a
 25 warrant for the death of the defendant. Okay. He is at that

1 time transferred out to East Texas and he will be housed out
 2 at Livingston, Texas, which is out near Huntsville, Texas.
 3 Have you ever been there?
 4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have been by there.
 5 MS. HANDLEY: Most people drive right by it. It
 6 is not a place most people visit. It is primarily dedicated
 7 to criminal justice studies, the defendant would be housed out
 8 there until a date set for his execution.
 9 The day before his execution, he will be transferred to
 10 Livingston, Texas to downtown Huntsville, Texas. In the
 11 middle of downtown Huntsville is an old prison unit called the
 12 Wallis Unit, and that's where they actually do the execution.
 13 They would take him and they would put him first in an
 14 isolated cell, just down the hallway from the death chamber.
 15 He would stay in that chamber by himself. He would have the
 16 opportunity to visit with some family members on the date of
 17 execution and a spiritual adviser, if he so inclined. He
 18 would be given that last meal that people always hear about.
 19 He could order anything on the menu as long as it is on the
 20 Texas TDC menu there.
 21 Come six o'clock, he is going to be transferred from that
 22 isolated cell down a narrow hallway to this death chamber.
 23 Whether he goes voluntarily or kicking and screaming or
 24 begging for his life, regardless, Mr. McGinnis, he is going.
 25 And he is going by people who are trained to do that and

1 trained to get him down to that death chamber. He will be
 2 taken down there. It is a small room, very sterile, kind of a
 3 gray, green industrial color. In the middle of that room is a
 4 hospital bed, basically a gurney. And he will be brought in
 5 there, and again whether he likes it or not, he will be
 6 strapped down to that gurney.
 7 Once he is strapped down, there is an individual who will
 8 put intravenous lines into his arm. In that room there are
 9 two windows. And at that point these curtains on these
 10 windows are going to be opened up. On one side, he could have
 11 five representatives for him, be it his family, his lawyer,
 12 whoever he so incline. On the other side, a curtain opens up,
 13 and there are five representatives from the victim's family,
 14 whoever chooses to be there so that they can actually watch
 15 this happen.
 16 At that point, he is given the opportunity to make a last
 17 statement. And I am sure you can imagine that many things
 18 have been said over the years. Some apologize, some people
 19 protest their guilt or innocence and say you got it wrong, you
 20 are killing an innocent man. But regardless, once what is
 21 said is said, what is done is done, regardless of what he
 22 says, the warden is going to give a nod to a person who is
 23 going to start to hit a series of buttons. These buttons
 24 release chemicals and these chemicals will flow through the
 25 I.V. and will start to go into his bloodstream. The first

1 chemical is designed to sedate him. The second one is
2 designed to cease his lungs. And the third one is designed to
3 cease his heart. And whether it takes four minutes, six
4 minutes or eight minutes, these chemicals will continue to
5 flow until he is pronounced dead by a medical doctor.

6 Now, I don't tell you that to be morbid. I tell you that
7 out of complete respect to you, and want to give you a very
8 good picture and appreciation for what we are talking about,
9 Mr. McGinnis. We are not talking really hypothetically
10 anymore. We are not talking about a hypothetical character.
11 I am talking about the person who is seated at the end of the
12 table. And so now comes that time where it is all about you
13 and your rank honesty with us. Need you to ask yourself and
14 look in your heart, having described that scenario to you,
15 knowing that you could quite possibly be a person who takes
16 part in the execution of another person, do you think that you
17 are that type of person, can you do that?

18 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I think I would be able
19 to do that.

20 MS. HANDLEY: Okay. Okay. And I would imagine
21 that you have given this a lot of soul-searching after having
22 read the questionnaire, you have thought a lot about it, it is
23 something that you could certainly do?

24 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

25 MS. HANDLEY: You wouldn't take it lightly I

1 take it?

2 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, definitely not.

3 MS. HANDLEY: And I will tell you that any of
4 the people that are currently selected so far, nobody has been
5 happy about it. It is a very serious process and one that
6 should not be taken lightly and it seems that you would not do
7 that, then?

8 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.

9 MS. HANDLEY: Let's talk a little bit about the
10 criminal justice process, have you ever sat on a jury before,
11 sir?

12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

13 MS. HANDLEY: How long ago was that?

14 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It's probably ten or 15
15 years ago.

16 MS. HANDLEY: And was that here in Texas?

17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No San Diego.

18 MS. HANDLEY: And I am thinking the California
19 system out there is probably different than Texas. In Texas
20 we are one of the last states where the jury actually assess
21 punishment in the case. But what did probably apply out in
22 California, are a lot of fundamental laws, propositions of law
23 that apply in all criminal cases, be it theft of a loaf of
24 bread or be it a death penalty case, we will talk a little bit
25 about that at this point. And some of these you may remember

1 from your jury duty in California.

2 First of all, I think you have before you a copy of the
3 indictment in this case, do you see that up there?

4 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

5 MS. HANDLEY: I will tell you that a criminal
6 trial in Texas is lot like an analogy I can make to a two-act
7 play. Have you been to the theater before? It is like a
8 two-act play, there is an intermission, and then there is a
9 second part. On the first part of the play, as with any
10 criminal trial, Mr. McGinnis, you are called upon to do one
11 thing and one thing only at that point, and that is to decide
12 whether or not the defendant is guilty of the charge, whether
13 or not we have proved the case to you beyond a reasonable
14 doubt. At that point we are not thinking about, am I giving
15 death as a sentence. You are not thinking about, am I giving
16 life imprisonment without parole. That does not factor into the
17 equation, you are focused on one question and one question
18 only, has the State proved the defendant guilty beyond a
19 reasonable doubt? What we have to prove to you is basically
20 what is in that indictment there. I saw you had a chance to
21 read that there.

22 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

23 MS. HANDLEY: I will paraphrase for you, those
24 are elements that we have to prove. We have to prove that on
25 or about a particular date in Dallas County, Texas, that the

1 defendant did intentionally or knowingly take the life of a
2 peace officer, knew he was a peace officer, while he was in
3 the line of the duty. And he did it by shooting him with a
4 firearm. Those are the elements of the indictment, and that
5 is what we have to prove to you. That's all we have to prove
6 to you at that point. I don't have to prove what color shirt
7 he was wearing, but we have to prove all the elements, not
8 five out of six, we have to prove every element.

9 And let me give you an extreme example, it would touch on
10 your qualifications as a juror. Let us say for, Mr. McGinnis,
11 at the conclusion of the testimony, I have proved to you
12 beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant has murdered a
13 peace officer while he was in the line of duty and he did it
14 by shooting him with a gun, there is no doubt in your mind.
15 But let's say I have neglected to bring you any piece of
16 evidence that it happened in Dallas County, Texas. And as you
17 see each element is as important as the other. Or I fail to
18 prove to you that it happened in Dallas County. Okay. The
19 Judge would instruct you that you are to return a verdict of
20 not guilty because I have not proved to you each and every
21 element beyond a reasonable doubt. It might make you sick to
22 do that. You might end up riding down the elevator with a guy
23 that killed a peace officer. But the Judge would instruct you
24 that to follow the law and your oath as a juror, you would
25 have to do that. Is that something that you could do?

1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 2 MS. HANDLEY: I would be looking for a job the
 3 next day, it is a pretty extreme example, but it brings forth
 4 that every element must be proved to you. What you have in
 5 front of you, it is an indictment, it is a piece of paper. It
 6 instructs what I have to prove. It gives them notice what he
 7 has been charged with. The Judge will instruct you that it is
 8 not to be considered as evidence in this case.
 9 A lot of people say, here we are, we are in a courtroom.
 10 I am seeing lawyers, bailiffs, the indictment, I am seeing an
 11 indictment, where there is smoke, there is fire. The law says
 12 at this point the indictment is just that, and you cannot
 13 consider it as any piece of evidence. Is that a law you think
 14 you could follow?
 15 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
 16 MR. BRAUCHLE: There is a prevailing theme
 17 coming out through these criminal trials; and that is, you are
 18 always looking to the State to do the proving. It is our
 19 obligation, always look to this side of the courtroom for any
 20 proof in the case. They have fulfilled their only
 21 obligations, and that is to be here. And I am assuming they
 22 will be here everyday. They have absolutely no obligation, as
 23 it should be.
 24 As we sit here today, have I brought you any proof
 25 whatsoever of the defendant's guilt?

1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.
 2 MS. HANDLEY: As we sit here today the law says
 3 that you must presume the defendant innocent and that he will
 4 enjoy and hold on to that presumption of innocence until
 5 myself and my colleagues have proved to you beyond a
 6 reasonable doubt that he is guilty. Is that a law that you
 7 can also follow and uphold?
 8 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, ma'am.
 9 MS. HANDLEY: The burden that I carry in this
 10 case, the burden that I carry throughout this part as well as
 11 the punishment phase of the trial, is to bring you evidence
 12 that will convince you beyond a reasonable doubt. I will tell
 13 you that there is no definition of what beyond a reasonable
 14 doubt means. It is really entirely up to you. Some people
 15 say my definition, if I am convinced beyond a reasonable
 16 doubt, it means that I am absolutely sure. It means I am
 17 convinced. It means my gut tells me it is good. It is your
 18 definition. It does not mean, and I think I am safe to say
 19 this, that I prove it to you beyond all doubt whatsoever.
 20 Because I don't think there is anything I could ever prove to
 21 you beyond all doubt whatsoever. If I were to ask you,
 22 though, what do you think beyond a reasonable doubt means?
 23 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think it is like you said,
 24 that I am confidence in the evidence you presented.
 25 MS. HANDLEY: You are confident?

142

1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I am confident in my
 2 decision.
 3 MS. HANDLEY: And again that's a burden I carry,
 4 they have no burden. They don't have to prove anything in
 5 this case. Something that goes along with that, they don't
 6 have to prove anything.
 7 If a defendant elects to testify, I am sure you heard of
 8 your Fifth Amendment right to remain silent. Basically what
 9 at that means is if an individual chooses to testify, a
 10 defendant, then you listen to that person's testimony and you
 11 assess that person's credibility as you would any other
 12 witness in a case. You could choose to believe all none or
 13 some of what they say. That's fine because they have taken
 14 the stand and they put it in issue. However, if an individual
 15 elects to exercise that constitutional right and not testify,
 16 the Judge will tell you that you may not use that as evidence
 17 against him. Is that a law you believe you could follow?
 18 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, ma'am.
 19 MS. HANDLEY: Your Honor, may we have a
 20 three-minute break?
 21 THE COURT: You may.
 22 You may step down Mr. McGinnis.
 23 (Prospective juror retired from the courtroom.)
 24 (You may be seated.)
 25 (Court recessed for the day.)

143

1 THE STATE of TEXAS)
 2 COUNTY of DALLAS)
 3 I, BELINDA G. BARAKA, Official Court Reporter in and
 4 for the 194th Judicial District Court of Dallas County, State
 5 of Texas, do hereby certify that the foregoing contains a true
 6 and accurate transcription of all portions of evidence and
 7 other proceedings requested in writing by counsel for the
 8 parties, to be included in this volume of the Reporter's
 9 Record, in the above-styled and -numbered cause(s), all of
 10 which occurred in open court or in chambers and were reported
 11 by me.
 12 I further certify that this Reporter's Record of the
 13 proceedings truly and correctly reflects the exhibits, if any,
 14 admitted by the respective parties.
 15 I further certify that the total cost for the
 16 preparation of this Reporter's Record was paid by the
 17 State/Defense.
 18 WITNESS MY OFFICIAL HAND this the 30th day of
 19 May, A.D., 2009.
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